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24 January 1984

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INDONESIA

PLANNED DEVELOPMENT OF LARGE ESTATES SUDDENLY CANCELED

Cancellation Causes Losses to Entrepreneurs

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 2 Nov 83 pp 1, 9

[Article: "Planned Development of Large Private Estates Suddenly Canceled"]

[Text] The government has suddenly canceled the planned development of large private estates, a plan which they had already promoted. In its place large estates will have to follow the PIR-bun [Smallholders Nuclear Estates] system in which entrepreneurs will be the cells and farmers the plasma.

Engineer Suhartoyo, head of the BKPM (Capital Investment Coordinating Body) explained to KOMPAS yesterday that this cancellation was based on the belief that the social and political impact of a privately-run estate was not good," [as published] he said.

This cancellation forces the cancellation from the beginning of all accounts and commitments with private entrepreneurs. "Fortunately," this will not cause too much of a loss to these entrepreneurs because the implementation of the planning had not gone too far.

BKPM launched the planned development of large private estates last June. As the first step five large private estates were to have been developed in Borneo, Sumatra and Irian Jaya. Each estate was to have been 100,000 hectares in size, a total of 500,000 hectares, and to have been planted with oil palms, hybrid coconuts, chocolate, rubber and sugar cane.

The development of these estate areas was supposed to have been a promotion aimed at and carried out by national private entrepreneurs. The commitment made was that when the business was successful it would go public, i.e. sell 20 to 40 percent of its shares to the public. In this way there would exist five 500,000-hectare estates at the end of Pelita IV [Fourth Five-Year Plan].

Just when this promotion was going along smoothly and entrepreneurs were beginning to be attracted into these areas, it was suddenly changed and tied to the PIR-bun system.

Three Alternatives

After the cancellation the head of BKPM stated that if the private estates

had been operated as originally planned, it would have caused future problems for the private sector because entrepreneurs with estates of 100,000 hectares and tens of thousands of workers "would certainly have worried about their position and would have hoped for a more fitting system."

"The PIR system is actually a solution to this problem even though the precise pattern has yet to be determined. We are just now thinking about the precise pattern and we have three alternatives," said Suharto.

In the first alternative the entrepreneur invests his capital in the entire estate including the processing plant. After the estate begins to produce, a large portion, 80 percent, is divided into lots and sold to the laborers with a mortgage commensurate with their ability to pay.

This way the private enterprise will manage 20 percent, the core of the estate, to be processed in its plant. The remainder, owned by the workers, will be processed by a share-crop system as is the case for sugar cane. The farmers will be able to buy the factory through their cooperative at some time in the future.

The second alternative is similar to the first except that the lots are to be bought by the government or by non-bank financial institutions. Then the lots will be sold to the farmer as in the first system, with a mortgage whose length is commensurate with their ability to pay.

In the third alternative right from the start the entrepreneur only develops the plant and 20 percent of the estate area and the remaining 80 percent is developed under the contract system. Under this system the entrepreneur only provides funds for 20 percent of the development and the government or a financial institution underwrites the remainder and contracts it to the entrepreneur.

Second Alternative

Suharto said that the second of these three alternatives was the fairest and perhaps this is the one that will be used. However, BKPM is still looking for input from various parties, including the entrepreneurs themselves.

It is thought that the first alternative puts too much of a burden on the entrepreneurs. Besides having to put up 100 percent of the costs of the project they also have to deal with the farmers. The entrepreneurs will be burdened during the long period of the mortgage.

On the other hand, the entrepreneur will like the third alternative because it will be easier on him, but this one will be difficult for the government. In particular, in a financial crisis such as now the government can hardly accept the second alternative.

"The best compromise is the second alternative," he said. After one of the

alternatives has been chosen the way to implement it will be investigated since this involves the length of the pay-out time, etc.

The head of BKPM said that in general private entrepreneurs' interest in estates was still high, but they have to be able to see a future profit. Besides that, the entrepreneur will also take into consideration the problem of their long-term frozen investments which will not show a quick profit as in industry or even more so in trade.

One enterprise will be the accumulation of capital from all entrepreneurs. On the whole, the potential of private investors in Indonesia is very great, but this potential is still scattered around and has not been fully taken advantage of. It would be very profitable if this potential is all put into estates. This way the risk can also be shared and it will also help in the development of nonoil exports.

150,000 Laborers

It is expected that at first the large estates will be able to have positions for 150,000 laborers, but since it has to follow the PIR system we do not yet know how many farmers will receive plots.

A investment of 1.5 trillion rupiahs will be needed for 500,000 hectares. This will produce foreign exchange of US \$800 million per year. Suharto said that even though the large-scale estate system had been changed, efforts to mature these estate lands had not been canceled.

Second Alternative Selected

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 4 Nov 83 p 2

[Article: "Hasjrul Harahap Selects Second Alternative"]

[Text] It would be best for the entrepreneur to develop large estates first and only after being productive should they be sold to the farmers under the PIR-bun [Smallholders Nuclear Estates] system. A mortgage system will be used in these sales and the government will provide the credit.

Engineer Hasjrul Harahap, junior minister for estate crops, made this statement on Wednesday [2 November] to reporters at the Bina Graha [President's Office] before a cabinet meeting of Ekuin [Economics, Finance and Industry].

Giving this explanation Hasjrul Harahap selected the second of the three alternatives put forth by Engineer Suharto, head of BKPM [Capital Investment Coordinating Board].

Suharto explained to KOMPAS on Tuesday [1 November] that the plans for large private estates had been canceled. In their place large estates will have to follow the PIR-bun system with entrepreneurs as the cells and farmers as the plasma.

The head of BKPM put forth three alternatives for implementing the PIR system: one, the private sector first develops the entire estate and then when it is almost finished, 80 percent is mortgaged to the farmer. In this case it is the entrepreneur who is the lender.

In the second alternative, as in the first, 80 percent of the estate lands are divided into lots but not sold directly to the farmers. First the government buys it and then sells it to the farmer. This second alternative has apparently been chosen by Engineer Hasjru Harahap.

In the third alternative the entrepreneur develops only 20 percent, the government finances the rest and the entrepreneurs are only contractors. This alternative is too difficult for the government so Hasjru Harahap did not agree to it. "It would be better if there were entrepreneurs to give the mortgage to the farmers," he said.

Entrepreneurs Want Clean-cut Explanation

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 5 Nov 83 pp 1, 9

[Article: "Cancellation of Large Private Estates: Entrepreneurs Ask for Clear-Cut Explanation"]

[Text] Entrepreneurs hope that the government will give them a full and clear-cut explanation about their planned participation in estate projects. Various statements concerning the estate system from government sources have only confused the entrepreneurs. Now they do not know which system the government wants.

Sukamdani Sahid Gitosardjono, chairman of the Indonesian Chamber of Commerce (Kadin) stated this opinion to KOMPAS Friday morning [4 November] in connection with a statement made by Engineer Suhartoyo, chairman of the Capital Investment Coordinating Board [BKPM], that the planned-for private estates had been canceled and been replaced by three alternatives of the PIR [Smallholders Nuclear Estates] system. There was also a statement made by minister of agriculture Affandi about the PIR system.

"Before government policy is announced they should meet the entrepreneurs through Kadin so that the final outcome is really what the entrepreneurs and the government wants," said Sukamdani.

William Soeryadjaja, head of the Astra business group, which had begun to be active in the estate field, said that the social and political impact of an estate policy should be examined before it is launched. Cancellation is a sudden change and it has a negative impact on the business world.

Drs Frans Seda, economic observer and member of Kadin's LP3E (Economic Development and Research Council) regretted the government's sudden cancellation of the large private estates project because this will increase the business world's doubts about the government's plans.

Second Alternative

In general the entrepreneurs choose the second of the three alternatives advanced by the chairman of BKPM, but their attitude is one of regret at the government's sudden cancellation of the large private estate plans.

This second alternative partly requires the entrepreneurs to develop the entire estate project. When it starts to become productive the government will buy it and then sell it to the farmers on the installment plan. 80 percent of the area will be sold to the farmers; the remaining 20 percent and the processing plant will be owned by the entrepreneurs.

"This second alternative is actually the core of several conversations between Kadin, minister of agriculture Affandi and junior minister of estate crops Hasjrul Harahap," said Sukamdani.

He said that if the entrepreneurs had agreed to this second alternative from the start, BKPM would no longer have to mention alternatives, especially if the technical department of the ministry of agriculture had already made the same determination.

Even so, if the chairman of BKPM needs input from the entrepreneurs, they will choose the second alternative. Because of that, this alternative can be studied more deeply so that it can act as a guide for entrepreneurs in the estate field.

If the minister of agriculture agrees to this second alternative, this will be the system that we use; the entrepreneurs are actually already in agreement. The chairman of Kadin said that after the chairman of BKPM had announced the cancellation of the large private estates, many entrepreneurs had contacted him and asked for the real background to this matter. He said that he himself did not clearly know the plans for the development of large private estates put forth by Engineer Suhartoyo. "Because these plans had not been officially discussed with Kadin but maybe only with certain entrepreneurs," he said.

Plans to develop these large estates were launched by the chairman of BKPM last July. As a first step five large private estates were to be developed in Borneo, Sumatra and Irian Jaya. Each was to be 100,000 hectares in size and to be planted with oil palms, hybrid coconuts, chocolate, rubber and sugar cane.

These plans were then promoted to various entrepreneurs, especially those who were thought to have succeeded in industry such as William Soeryadjaja, Sudono Salim and others. Later, after the estates were productive they would sell shares to the public. But just as these plans had begun to bear fruit, they were suddenly cancelled on the grounds that they might have a bad social and political impact.

As a replacement three PIR-system alternatives were suggested. First, developing the estates entirely with private capital. When the plants

covered 80 percent of the area they would be sold to the farmers who were members of the PIR on the installment plan. Second, like the first except that the government would buy it from the entrepreneur and then resell it to the farmer. Third, the private entrepreneur from the start only develops 20 percent, the government the other 80 percent then contracts it out to the entrepreneur.

As Long as it is Reasonable

William Soeryadjaja said that he agreed to the second BKPM alternative, but a reasonable value must be placed from the start on the government's recompense for the 80 percent private area, meaning the entrepreneurs should not take a loss. If, for example, a plant disease destroys the crop before it is sold to the government, this too must be taken into consideration.

The first alternative of giving a mortgage directly to the farmers is considered too difficult for the entrepreneurs. "Agricultural enterprises are not easy. They require a lot of capital and are full of risks. Besides that, there is a slow return on investment. Therefore, the government should help in this burden by buying for cash 80 percent of the area planted," said William.

As for the third alternative, the entrepreneurs consider that the expenses here are low because they will not have to pay them all themselves, but the development of the estates cannot be depended on since the contractor system requires close supervision so that the work conforms to the goals set and so that there are no irregularities.

An entrepreneur who wished to remain anonymous said that the contract system would be a problem. A big trustworthy entrepreneur is best for an estate, but this can cause friction since it can be viewed as ignoring weaker entrepreneurs. If a weak entrepreneur does it, he cannot be depended on to develop a large plantation. If it is divided up, it is even harder because it requires firm management on the part of the project owner.

William Soeryadjaja, who is also a member of the Kadin leadership, said that entrepreneurs are attracted to estates because they believe that this is the only way they can join in increasing farmers' productivity. If this productivity increases, their ability to buy industrial products also increases and so it will cause domestic industry to grow.

"Recent difficulties in marketing textiles and electronics are not because the market is saturated but because the public's buying power is declining. We hope that this problem of buying power can be solved by means of these estates," he said. Besides this, estates will help the labor problem.

Meanwhile, Drs Frans Seda said that he agreed with the idea behind the cancellation, but he did not agree with the cancellation itself because slashing around like that causes a loss of business confidence. This also can increase costs of economic activities because business risks are

considered high. "It would have been better if the government had not cancelled it just like that, but had directed its course via the DSP (priority scale list)," said Seda. "In this way, it would not give the impression of a sudden cancellation but rather one directed toward an original goal."

ABC Package

Meanwhile, the department of agriculture explained that three packages, A, B and C, had been set up to handle this problem

Package A is the long-term plans set up b. the PN [National Company] and PT [Incorporated Company] estate companies. The necessary land is already available. Funds are planned from various sources: private funds, government capital participation, foreign financial institutions (World Bank, Asia Development Bank), government banks and so forth.

Package B is plans to speed up development to fulfill the goals of Pelita IV, besides the long-term PN/PT estates plans (besides package A). Provincial heads in various provinces have already agreed in principle to the land.

Package C is plans for private estates which already exist or new enterprises active in oil palms. Land will be made available and private funds are already available.

All Banks

A statement received from the office of the junior minister for estate crops said that all general government banks and the Indonesian Development Bank (Bapindo) can participate in providing credit for national private estates. This was revealed in a letter to junior minister Hasjrul Harahap from the directorate of the Bank of Indonesia. The Export Import Bank [Eksim] will not be the only one channeling credit to estates.

In the first stage of the national private large estates project (PBSN) there will be 34 estates with an area of 77,985 hectares, a financed area of 30,916 hectares, a total cost of 36,653 billion rupiahs and an investment credit financed by the bank of 25,983 billion rupiahs. Credit was given for the first time by the Eksim bank from 1977 to 1981.

In the second stage of the PBSN project 13 enterprises with an investment of 25,577 billion rupiahs had been developed up to March 1983. Seven enterprises with an investment of 25 billion rupiahs are still waiting for a decision. There are 39 enterprises with an investment of 175.16 billion rupiahs being processed for presentation to the BRI [Bank of Indonesia]. There are 34 enterprises with an investment of 74,520 billion rupiahs still undergoing feasibility studies.

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CSO: 4213/77

BIMAS SYSTEM NEEDS TO BE IMPROVED, JUNIOR MINISTER SAYS

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 2 Nov 83 p 2

[Article: "Bimas System Needs to be Improved"]

[Text] The Bimas system, particularly the amount of Bimas credit, needs to be improved before the 1983-84 planting season. Junior minister for food production, engineer Wardoyo, made this statement to the press in the VIP-room of Hasanuddin Airport, Ujungpandang, before leaving for Jakarta on Sunday morning [30 October].

So that the present situation does not just drag on those farmers who are in arrears will no longer be included in Bimas but we hope they will continue in the mass intensification program [Inmas]. "It is important that people are aware that credit is not the only element in Bimas but rather the total application of the Five-Efforts Program (Pancausaha)," he said.

The minister said that affluent farmers were not expected to ask for additional credit. The aim is to give Bimas credit to small-scale farmers.

"That is why Bimas acreage in the 1983/84 planting season cannot be targeted given these new policies. Because it depends on which farmers state their willingness to participate and are not in arrears and whose land needs the Bimas package," he said.

Even so, total intensification still has a target. For example, for the 1983/84 planting season the area of wet-rice intensification in South Sumatra is 215,000 hectares, corn is 31,035 hectares, soybeans 18,130 hectares, peanuts 16,260, green beans 14,490 and cassava 3,465 hectares. The total non-rice intensification is 83,430 hectares.

Farmers with more than one hectare of wet-rice fields or more than two hectares of dry fields will not be given Bimas credit. This policy is expected to hasten the repayment of Bimas credit and smooth the way to an increase in agricultural production.

The junior minister said that South Sumatra has been in arrears for 50 percent of the credit extended since 1975. This is higher than the national average of 27 percent. About 20 billion rupiahs of credit has been extended

to South Sumatra and about 10 billion has been repaid. A credit of about 689 billion has been extended nationally and 499 billion has been repaid.

Soybeans

One of the targets this year is to increase the production and widen the planting area for soybeans. "Because last year we still imported 500,000 tons of soybeans," explained the minister.

Last year South Sumatra produced 8000 tons of soybeans and it is estimated that production will increase by 100 percent this year, reaching 16,000 tons. The intensification goal for the 1983/84 planting season is 18,130 hectares.

As for increasing the area planted in soybeans, acid soil will also be used but efforts to apply lime will be made first. "Applying lime to acid soil is not only useful for soybeans but it also neutralizes aluminum and iron poisoning of the soil in general and it improves the growth of dry rice, legumes and so forth. In short, applying lime increases production," the junior minister said.

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CSO: 4213/77

USE OF HIGH CONVERSION RATE DISTORTING RICE OUTPUT FIGURES

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 2 Nov 83 pp 1, 9

[Article: "Rice Import Figures Look Higher than they Actually are Due to Error in Conversion Rate"]

[Text] Based on various surveys the dry unhulled rice to hulled rice conversion rate hovers around 65 percent. However, the government is still using the figure of 68 percent in calculating national rice production. The result is that the production figures look higher than they actually are.

This was revealed during the discussion of after-harvest problems at the First Congress and Seminar on Indonesian Statistics held in Jakarta on Tuesday [1 Nov]. Dr Engineer Eryatno of the Bogor Agricultural Institute [IPB] was the speaker and the discussant was Engineer Anas Rachman of the Logistical Affairs Board [Bulog].

"There still exists a big discrepancy between what different government agencies use," said a seminar participant to KOMPAS.

As examples he pointed to the Department of Agriculture and to Bulog. The former still uses the 68 percent figure in order to make output look bigger. On the other hand, Bulog uses the 65 percent figure because they want to import the largest possible amount of rice so that there is no rice shortage between harvests.

The BPS (Central Statistical Bureau) is still taking an independent position by announcing the figures for dry unhulled rice at every estimate of the harvest. "The conversion figure used depends on the particular agency," said the moderator Sugito, M.A., BPS deputy for planning and statistical analysis.

Must be Perfected

Eryanto, who announced the results of IPB's Agricultural Technology Team's research, said that based on their research the conversion figure was 64.61 percent. This is a difference of three percent from the figure used by the Department of Agriculture in estimating national rice production.

"The conversion rate used now must be improved because a difference of only

one percent means a difference of about a quarter of a million tons in the production figure, and the difference between the figure used by the government and the figure determined by our research is three percent," he said.

The discussant, Anas Rachman, said that even though the government used the 68 percent rate, Bulog used 65 percent in its planning. They did this in order to determine whether to import rice that year or not.

Based on research carried out by the 1949/50 agriculture department team the figure ranged from 68.97 to 71.10 percent. In subsequent research it was learned that the conversion rate was smaller than the 1949/50 research indicated. For example, IPB research in 1974 showed 64.55 to 65.10 percent, Bulog/FAO in 1980 showed 63.9 to 64.8 percent and IPB in 1982/83 showed 64.61 percent.

Used for a Long Time

Soepono, a seminar participant from the Central Bimas Steering Team, admitted in a statement to KOMPAS that the 65 percent figure derived from old, incomplete and static research, but there was no satisfactory figure to replace it with because there had not been any complete national survey as yet.

He gave as an example the 64.61 percent figure from the IPB 1982/83 survey, which did not cover all rice-producing areas. This study was carried out in Aceh, Lampung, West Java, East Java, West Nusa Tenggara, South Borneo, South Celebes, and South Sumatra. Yogyakarta, Bali, North Sumatra, West Sumatra, North Celebes and West Borneo were not investigated.

A sample from every region is needed since every region has its own way of turning unhulled rice into rice.

Not Eaten

Eryanto said in his speech that the rice conversion rate is strongly affected by the machinery used. If the machinery is good, the conversion rate can be higher; if not, the rate might be only 60 to 62 percent.

When rice is milled there is rather a big loss. For wet rice the milling loss is 4.80 percent and for dry rice 4.85 percent. This loss consists of fine grains and bran which can actually be eaten but are thrown away instead.

The results of the 1978/79 test for converting unhulled rice into food indicated that for each 100 kg of unhulled rice produced there were 26 kg of husk mixed with dirt and water, 10.1 kg of bran, 42.2 kg of whole grains, 15 kg of broken grains, 1.3 kg of fine grains and 5.4 kg of colored grains and foreign bodies.

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CSO: 4213/77

UNJUST OFFICIAL USE OF REACTIONARY LABEL DECRIED

Vientiane NOUM LAO in Lao 1-15 Oct 83 p 15

[Text] Ever since the inception of this column, this columnist has listened to tales of large and small complaints, and has received a number of letters from our readers, which though not numerous by any means, have nevertheless been a great booster of morale for all of us who publish the NOUM LAO newspaper.

In this issue, I want to take up a story which I will title "Democracy Disdained" and tell it to you. This story takes place in Champassak Province in a school which I will title "C" school. Not long ago, the trade union committee of "C" school began a document study session, and they sought new members. Comrade "A," one of the members of the trade union committee in this school, said that there was trampling of democratic rights, because a number of the new members were those to whom the old members had refused admission since they were deficient in many qualifications. But at that point, those involved were successful in sneaking them into the trade union organization, because the head of the trade union used his connections with bit shots somehow. But in any case, it was a violation of the organization's rules and nothing less than disregard for the democratic rights of those in the organization's members.

When many of the committee members evidenced reactions of disagreement, made criticisms, and reported this [to higher-ups], the head, instead of mending his ways or reforming, became combative and labeled the people on the committee "reactionaries" and many other things, which was an act of defamation, of lodging false charges, and of criticizing without reason. This was totally wrong. Just this much would be considered bad enough, but that is not all. In order to raise himself out of the mire of his depravity, the head went about "informing the higher echelons." If you will allow me to use impolite language, it was indeed to the point of "licking their boots," of "kissing their feet." If you want to rise, you have to step on people that way!

This story does not end here...because the head, instead of being punished or reforming himself, still sailed on peacefully like a conqueror. As for those who had been slandered, there were negative, ugly judgments on their political line in their files, which follow them through their studies.

This writer, who has preserved the truth, although I am not the person to rule on this issue, would nevertheless like to offer here a word of support: our organization is strict and just because of the system of democratic centralism, and they can make progress because the people on the committees make surveys and investigations, and dare to criticize and to send word on [to the upper echelons]. Good people must be praised, and faulty ones must be criticized and disciplined. Certain revolutionaries have taught: "We have more democracy than others because we have more freedom than they do. We have more freedom than others because we have democracy than they do." The definition of "democracy" for us is different from the "phony democracy" of the capitalist kind. We have democracy under the political line of the party. Those who practice democracy outside of that [framework], the "strongman dictator" kind, that kind which uses power to coerce, or any other kind, are only digging their own graves.

12532
CSO: 4206/43

MINISTRY OF INTERIOR REFORMATORY NEAR NAM NGUM

Vientiane NOUM LAO in Lao 1-15 Oct 83 p 7

[Text] The Nam Poh reformatory, which is directly responsible to the General Logistics Department in the Ministry of the Interior, is located to the east between Don [island] Kang Sai and Don Namkha, at a distance of about 20 km from the headwaters of Nam Ngum Dam. Traveling by boat, it takes an hour to reach the island. Comrade Thongdeun, head of those in charge of Don Nam Poh, told NOUM LAO: "The Don Nam Poh reformatory was built in 1977. There are 7 buildings, and a total of 50 people. There are two comrades in charge. This island is rich with many kinds of crops scattered over the island, such as rice, bananas, pineapples, edible manioc, etc. And this island has the number one rate of expansion of its role of production in comparison with other islands. The primary production base on the island, is wood. Besides that, we plant secondary crops as well, and raise a large number of animals. This production on the island naturally uses human muscle. Although the number of people is small, because of the decisiveness of all our brothers and sisters on the island who have such solidarity, they are of one mind and press on to do their assignments with determination. So this caused last year's production--as well as this year's production season to get perfect results. By relying on the plan of the Central Logistics Department in the Ministry of the Interior for assuring the living standards for all our brothers and sisters on the island, it has gotten better by leaps and bounds all the time."

From actual achievements in the field of production in past years and in 1983, we can summarize as follows: in 1980, 19 tons of rice was harvested; 1981, 14 tons, 1982, 16 tons. In some places, the harvests did not get letter-perfect results because old fields were used. In the past year, 4000 hills of hot peppers were planted. Specifically, in 1983 all the rice fields were planted with 360 kilos of rice seed. The vegetable beds were expanded, and 10,000 hills of green beans and hot peppers were planted; 1,000 banana plants, 4,000 pineapple plants, and 50,000 new and old edible manioc plants were put in. Besides this, livestock were raised as well, for instance: 45 cows, 7 water buffalo, 7 pigs, 40 goats, and many ducks, chickens, and geese. Wood production in the first six months of 1983 totalled 10 cubic meters, which came to 50,000 kip. In addition, Comrade Thongdeun said, "In plans for the immediate future, we are going to expand the crop fields some more. Especially, we are definitely going to take care of successfully and greatly increase the planting of starchy crops over what it has been, in accordance with the emulation plans."

12532

CSO: 4206/43

POOR QUALITY, NO SPARE PARTS FOR SOVIET BLOC GOODS ASSAILED

Vientiane NOUM LAO in Lao 1-15 Oct 83 p 11

[Text] As a journalist for the masses, I have a policy of putting the voice of the people down in newsprint in order that what is right may be considered to seek good solutions for everyone may be found.

"Bicycles and motorcycles are on sale, but there are no spare parts for sale. You ride it, it breaks down, and you junk it." This, indeed, is the thought and the opinion which I have been suppressing for many years, while trying to look for other reasons with which to comfort myself.

In another year, the spare parts were bound to come. If not this year, then next year for sure--the year after that--year after year--until, finally, the matter is still unresolved.

It was at this point that I decided to put my thoughts down [in print] and to seek out an opinion together with the readers.

Let us begin here. Neither bicycles nor motorcycles from socialist countries--whether sold as rationed goods or [freely] in stores--have any spare parts. You ride them for about one year, and then leave them in the corner of the house. Even though there are some spare parts, and many cannot be adapted in place of others. If they can be adapted, then you have to buy the part and then pay for the mechanic's time as well, which makes the cost even higher. Whether they are of Soviet or German make, if you have a flat tire, you have to change even the steel rim. When you change it you have to change the two together, even the terribly expensive metal too. The tires, after a year's use, are past their day.

This writer has already parked two such bicycles for good. One was orange, one was green.

It is the same with motorcycles. Whether it is a (Yawa) or a (Vekoven) it falls into the same state without exception. Both socialist bloc bicycles and motorcycles for sale in the shops are unattractive brands. Their bodies are covered with dust and spider webs. Their headlights are broken, the fenders are twisted, and the tires are flat. That one is out of order; this one is broken just at that moment. Once you have bought one, you wheel it with

difficulty out of the shop, because it does not move smoothly. I am ashamed each time it happens in front of me and everytime I wheel one out of the store myself.

I have used both motorcycles and bicycles, and I think they can be very useful; you can ride a bicycle over a long distance, or hills, on muddy paths, on sandy trails all very well. I once rode a (Vekoven) to Tha Lot (about 100 kilometers). I used about four liters of gasoline coming and going. It turned out to be extremely difficult.

The way that some stores make these pieces of merchandise look grim--how is that going to attract customers? That is not enough. Many people think, "That product does not work well, it is no good, and it is not pretty." Many people think, "That is slandering our fellow socialist countries' products."

Merchants have the right and the money to repair bicycles and motorcycles to make them spanking new, so that once you buy one, you can ride it right out of the shop with a leap and a bound. If they think to stick this onto the price, people won't be too happy about it. But once it has been bought, it is hard for consumers to bring in the cash to have it repaired!

I am waiting for the time when my two bicycles will come back to life once more to serve society. And I am upset and hurt about the future of the (Vekoven) my inseparable companion.

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CSO: 4206/43

LAOS

BRIEFS

LUANG PRABANG PSS WORK--The inhabitants of Siang Ngeun District, Luang Prabang Province, attest without reservations that Second Lt Comrade Khamla Muonglatsami of the PSS [Public Security Service] command, is a young official who is vigorous, brace and strict in his duty. In his position as one of the members of the administrative committee of the district Youth Union, as well as being secretary of the PSS Youth Union, he led groups of other young men in the same profession in actual work, and achieved the following outstanding results: sent 20 men to the provincial and central governments; took part in constructing water drainage pipes and helped the people to build 83 irrigation dams; built a resthouse for the public; and helped donate a sum of money towards the construction of a district hospital. As for his public safety work, the PSS Youth Union has guarded representatives of the upper echelons, meetings, and public gatherings with 100 percent effectiveness. On five patrols, he closed down illegal gambling operations, and collected over 100,000 kip in fines. [Excerpts]
[Vientiane NOUM LAO in Lao 1-15 Oct 83 p 6] 12532

CSO: 4206/43

MCA ACTING PRESIDENT ON COMING BY-ELECTION FOR SEREMBAN

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 2 Oct 83 p 3

[Text] In the coming by-election for Seremban, which candidate will the Malaysian Chinese Association [MCA] put up to be pitted against the Democratic Action Party [DAP]? Who will be its ideal candidate? This has become a hot topic of conversation in the Chinese community.

According to a speech given by MCA's Acting President Datuk Dr Neo Yee Pan at the 18th Johore MCA Youth annual conference this morning, it is likely that the party will put forward a "female general" to battle with the DAP.

In his speech, Datuk Neo pointed out that Seremban parliamentary electoral district has 49 percent women voters, and the votes they will cast will be crucial. That's why the MCA cannot afford to ignore this batch of votes.

He disclosed that the MCA is now cultivating women political leaders, in the hope that they can keep abreast with their Malay counterparts in making political contributions to our country and sharing the responsibility of national leadership.

Datuk Dr Neo, who is concurrently minister for housing and local government, said that no decision has been made by the MCA Central Committee concerning the party's candidate for the Seremban by-election, adding that four or five persons are under consideration, including three women.

He added, smiling: "It is possible we may send a female general to the battlefield, because one of our targets is to cultivate Chinese women political leaders.

"We also hope that besides Datin Paduka Chew Poh Khiun, our country will produce another MCA woman member of Parliament."

In the foreseeable future, he added, the MCA will have a woman senator. At the present time, the MCA has recommended a candidate for senator to Prime Minister Datuk Sri Mahathir.

He disclosed that the MCA is making all-round preparations for the coming Seremban by-election.

He praised the comrades of Johore State MCA Youth Wing for their work and described them as democratic fighters. He hoped that the said youth wing will send its elite units to help out the Seremban by-election and, together with Seremban voters, work toward the glorious future of the Chinese nationality.

He explained that the Seremban by-election was held because the seat was left vacant by the resignation of Datuk Lee San Choon, former MCA president. There is no such thing in the world as a political leader that doesn't step down one day, and now Datuk Lee San Choon's retirement has become a fact. So, by necessity, a by-election must be held and we need to win the wholehearted support of the people in this particular electoral district, if only to show that the will and determination of the people there remain unchanged.

"We are confident that we will emerge victorious in the by-election for Seremban. The people can also realize fully the need for vicissitudes of a political movement, which must be dealt with calmly and appropriately. If such political rise and fall is badly handled, the majority of the people will suffer, or ill consequences will follow. Therefore we must do a careful balancing between objective circumstances and subjective aspirations, and we must not allow ourselves to be swayed by instigations and challenges of other people and thereby disturbing the entire situation," he said.

Datuk Neo pointed out that Malaysia's independence was achieved through the joint efforts of the three major nationalities. In the process, the whole people throughout the land cooperated with one another to reach where we are today. As we share the fruits of our independence, it is only natural that we expect a fair share of our achievements. This is not a selfish desire of any particular nationality, but the ideals of the entire people. Up to now, the purpose of a long-range political struggle is to realize these ideals.

"The MCA has been leading the Chinese in this country since the British colonial days, enabling them to take an active part in the struggle for our independence. Today, after 26 years of independence, we are still leading our compatriots in democratic political movement activities hand-in-hand with other nationalities toward our common goals and ideals of a just and reasonable nation. As members of the Chinese people, we always maintain that MCA's political struggle forms one of Malaysia's democratic political mainstreams. This correct concept can never be changed or devaluated. Therefore, the Chinese community must, by all ways and means, get unified and cherish the value of our struggle. We must never condescend ourselves and slacken our unfinished responsibilities."

Speaking about MCA's Ten Major Plans and Eight Major Policies, Datuk Neo said that the former represents one of the ideals of the great masses while the latter is the party's flexible strategy and measure to lead the Chinese community along the political mainstream, and not to depart from the major link of democratic politics, because only through politics can we guarantee our economic, cultural and educational positions and values.

"We must point out that we should not like or dislike a certain kind of work strictly based on personal benefit. This is the dreadful, entangled weak point

between democratic ideology and profit motive. We must muster our open and overboard fighters to win over political opponents and all obstacles and guard against losing our direction," he said.

Datuk Neo also stressed that in the developing Malaysia, MCA's Youth League must play an important role in all fields, particularly in politics where its members must continue to act as pioneers for the Chinese youths throughout the country.

He pointed out that as MCA's political pioneers, Youth League members must view the current and future situation developments with an objective attitude and farsighted outlook, and at the same time analyse the problems logically and correctly, in complete disregard of distracting, nonsensical opinions.

Earlier, Datu, Neo said that during the past two years the Johore MCA Youth Wing members were engaged in many activities in a systematic, planned and collective manner. One of their achievements was sending a delegation to meet the state chief minister on behalf of the local people concerning a land and housing problem, which son a promise from the authorities. This positive action of easing the people's anxieties, along with other meaningful steps, deserves praise.

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COMMENTARY DISCUSSES NEED FOR CHINESE UNITY

Selangor KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS in Chinese 4 Oct 83 p 2

[Commentary: "Chinese Unity Would Consolidate Their Economic, Political Positions"]

[Text] Datuk Neo Yee Pan, acting president of the Malaysian Chinese Association [MCA], said that if the Chinese community wants to win respect in this country, its members must consolidate the right of Chinese representation on a collective basis and strengthen the Chinese economic position.

In fact, every ethnic Chinese, especially if he has received basic education, should be able to understand this simple reasoning. However, it is sad to recall that the Chinese are in dissension like grains of sand. The main problem is not that we are ignorant of the significance of unity in our country, but that there are too many roads leading to "unity."

There are too many political parties with Chinese backbone. In Peninsular Malaysia, we have the purely Chinese MCA, and the Democratic Action Party [DAP] and the Malaysian People's Movement [GERAKAN], whose memberships are composed mainly of Chinese. All these parties trumpet their respective ideals and shout their respective slogans, and encourage the Chinese to work under their respective banners. As a result, they are pulling and pushing one another in total disarray. What they have achieved is not solidarity but a wider split.

As the Chinese are not united, all Chinese political parties, including the MCA, do not have sufficient rights of Chinese representation in the eyes of the United Malays National Organization [UMNO], which is the mainstay party of the National Front. Although the MCA claims to represent the Chinese, yet it cannot convince the UMNO that it truly represents the Chinese community.

No matter whether the MCA or any other Chinese-bolstered political party represents the Chinese or not, the sad fact is that there is no Chinese party that really can speak for the 5 million Chinese. This is tantamount to admitting that the Chinese are in total disarray. If we expect our friendly nationalities to respect our position, we Chinese must be united first of all, otherwise we cannot expect to win anything.

To say that the Chinese are occupying a superior economic position is a beautiful lie. The blunt fact is that economically speaking we are merely a grain in the boundless sea. The Chinese are congregated in the cities doing business, but they may be likened to soap bubbles. Practically every position has been occupied by our friendly nationalities on the strength of their economic capabilities. Therefore, if the Chinese want to save themselves, there is only one way, and that is to strive for the strengthening of their economic and political objectives through unity.

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CSO: 4205/15

MALAYSIA

MAK HON KAM CALLS FOR STRONG UNITY OF MCA, CHINESE CLAN ASSOCIATIONS

Selangor KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS in Chinese 4 Oct 83 p 2

[Text] Labor Minister Datuk Mak Hon Kam, concurrently acting vice president of the Malaysian Chinese Association [MCA], stressed that the MCA and Chinese mass organizations/clannish associations are as interdependent as lips and teeth, and that its future is closely linked with that of the Chinese race. Let us organize and mobilize ourselves into a force to be reckoned with.

He was speaking at a "Model Family Contest" banquet organized by the MCA and 23 Chinese mass organizations held at the Seremban Chinese Athletic Club yesterday.

Minister Mak said this cooperation is a good beginning for the strengthening of further cooperation between the MCA on the one hand and Chinese groups on the other. "We are all striving for progress for our nationality. However, as we are embroiled in a political atmosphere, conflicts of interest have often hindered our progress. The Malays have laid a foundation to unify the Malay society. If our community continues to be in dissension, this will do no good to the future of the Chinese people and the country. Therefore, we must realize the ideals of our common struggle, instead of bickering and blaming one another," he said.

He said that during the short 26 years of independence, development in the political, economic, cultural and educational fields has been speeded up and expanded. "In this transition, we have experienced the anxieties of the 60's and the political awareness of the 70's, but we are still lagging behind amid the dynamic changes of the 80's. Shouting slogans will do us no good. Time is irrevocable. If we are still in disarray, it's no different from alienating ourselves from our leases of life," Datuk Mak concluded.

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CSO: 4205/15

LIM KIT SIANG CALLS FOR DECLARATION MALAYSIA WILL NOT BECOME ISLAMIC STATE

Selangor KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS in Chinese 4 Oct 83 p 2

[Text] Lim Kit Siang, secretary general of the Democratic Action Party [DAP], today urged the deputy prime minister to declare openly that Malaysia will not become an Islamic state.

Alluding to the deputy prime minister's remark in Seremban yesterday that a small group of people are planning to transform Malaysia into an Islamic state, Lim Kit Siang told a news conference in Ipoh today that he is paying close attention to the issue.

Lim hoped that the deputy prime minister, Datuk Musa Hitam, would also pay close attention to the same issue.

Although it is clear that there is only a small possibility for Malaysia to turn Islam, nevertheless the possibility exists all the same.

He stressed that unless the idea is approved by believers of other religions, the government must halt any plan of Islamization of our country.

He also said that at one time in the past the government had stressed that it would inject Islamic values into government organization and administration.

Commenting on the M\$20 million already spent for the prime minister's official residence, Lim said that he would make an interpellation in a forthcoming parliamentary session concerning construction expenditures.

He said that before moving into his new official residence, the prime minister had promised that he would consult the opinions of the public first. But he is living in there already.

Touching on press reports that the government is reviewing subsidies of national and state assembly members, Mr Lim appealed to the government to revert to the old system under which national and state assemblymen must serve nine years before they are entitled to receive pensions.

He continued that his party strongly objects to a system whereby these assemblymen can draw pensions after only three years of service.

He proposed that a public functionary should serve at least ten years before he can enjoy retirement benefits.

Lim Kit Siang divulged that he has written to some political leaders, inviting them to attend a meeting to discuss the possibility of making a concerted action in Parliament voicing objection to the government's policy of cultural assimilation, scheduled to be held in Parliament Building this coming Saturday, at 10 am. Recipients of Mr Lim's invitation letters include Datuk Dr Neo Yee Pan, acting president of the Malaysian Chinese Association; Datuk Dr Lim Keng Yaik, national chairman of the Malaysian People's Movement; and Datuk Neo Kock Sin of the United People's Party.

Up to now the three persons have not replied.

Mr Lim declined to comment on the forthcoming Seremban by-election.

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CSO: 4205/15

GERAKAN PRESIDENT SAYS COOPERATION WITH MCA POSSIBLE

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 18 Oct 83 p 4

[Text] Datuk Dr Lim Keng Yaik, national chairman of the Malaysian People's Movement [GERAKAN], indicated that although his party is a multiracial organization, it can cooperate with the Malaysian Chinese Association [MCA], as long as such cooperation does not violate GERAKAN's standpoints and principles.

Datuk Lim said: The cooperation between the two political parties coincides with the demands of the Chinese society and with the needs of the national circumstances.

He pointed out: It is not difficult for both parties to attain mutual cooperation, but it is not easy, either, because this kind of cooperation is meeting with obstacles from both sides involving political factors and personal interests.

He said: The GERAKAN and the MCA can discuss the details for the cooperation.

He maintained that the cooperation will augur well for improvement in the work of the respective parties.

Datuk Dr Lim Keng Yaik made these remarks at a banquet honoring three GERAKAN members who had received official awards.

He said: Playing politics not only wastes money and time, but is also a mental sacrifice. Politics is a tool to solve problems, and no problem is devoid of political implications. Therefore, entering politics is also a kind of ideal, a kind of spirit and a kind of goal, and it requires tolerance in dealing with the masses.

He differed with some people who enter politics for personal profit or monetary returns. Other people get involved in politics to satisfy their ego, and their word and deed can influence the interests of the entire community.

He pointed out: As a matter of fact, politics is not dirty. It is the human factor that makes it dirty.

Ong Chee Bok, GERAKAN's central committee member, also gave a speech at the banquet.

He said: The intricate relationship between GERAKAN and MCA may be likened to a situation reflected in a poem written by Lu Mei Po, a poet of Sung dynasty. The theme concerned "a strife for spring between the plum tree and the snow" during wintertime. The snow wants Winter to linger forever, while the plum needs Spring to blossom. So there is competition for the "right" weather conditions between them. Similarly, there is unavoidable competition between the multiracial GERAKAN and the uniracial MCA. Yet on the major premise of serving the state and the people (including the ethnic-Chinese, of course), both political parties still have plenty of room for cooperation. The scene of "the plum and the snow vying for Spring" not only fails to spoil the spring atmosphere, but, on the contrary, becomes a well-distributed beautiful spring scenery.

He said that at the present historical stage, as long as ethnic-Chinese political workers earnestly instill the correct awareness of Malaysian citizenship into the minds of our compatriots, instead of utilizing chauvinism to enrich and empower themselves, then the ideological distance between the policies of the MCA and the GERAKAN can be narrowed further.

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CSO: 4205/20

USE OF TERM 'ALIENS' FOR MALAYSIAN CHINESE, INDIANS OPPOSED

Sleangor KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS in Chinese 18 Oct 83 p 2

[Text] Lim Kit Siang, secretary general of the Democratic Action Party [DAP], today called on the prime minister to order leaders of the United Malays National Organization [UMNO] to stop treating our Chinese and Indian citizens as aliens and hoped that Parliament members representing the National Front would not treat the House of Representatives as a governmental department.

Lim Kit Siang was speaking at a banquet marking the opening of the DAP's Simpang Lima branch held at a local restaurant tonight.

He said that during a parliamentary debate on Land Utilization (Amendment) Bill, Abdul Ghafar bin Baba, secretary general of the National Front, used the term "aliens" in alluding to Malaysia's Chinese and Indian citizens. He said "Bangsa Asing" [foreigners] when referring to non-bumiputras or non-Malays, which, in fact, has become standard practice among UMNO leaders. But such address is incorrect.

As an M.P. representing an opposition party, Mr Lim said in his speech that he felt sad that after 26 years of independence today, there are still political leaders who describe 100 percent Malaysians as foreigners. He warned that unless these politicians change their thinking about the customs and attitudes of various nationalities and halt their steadily divisive outlook, there will be no national unity or Malaysian construction, because the Chinese and Indians in Malaysia are pure Malaysians, and not aliens.

The following day, according to Mr Lim, both the former Perak chief minister and Deputy Minister Kamaruddin tried to ease the tension on behalf of Abdul Ghafar bin Baba by explaining that Abdul Ghafar was referring to aliens, and not non-Malays. But Mr Lim remained disgruntled.

Lim Kit Siang continued that the foreigners referred to by UMNO leaders are clearly non-Malays. In the end, he was satisfied that his allegation was denied by UMNO leaders.

He indicated that a certain Malay politician often describes Malaysia's Chinese and Indians as "newcomers." The DAP would like to repeat that our

ancestors were newcomers, but the present generation of Chinese and Indians are local nationals. When the authorities talk about newcomers, they should be referring to illegal Indonesian immigrants and Philippine refugees.

Lim Kit Siang appealed to the prime minister to order UMNO leaders to stop describing Malaysia's Chinese and Indians as "aliens" or "newcomers."

Mr Lim held that during a parliamentary session last week, many members took the House of Representatives as a governmental department, and not as our top legislative institution, because they did not understand the basic principles of parliamentary democracy. The DAP requested Parliament to accept a proposal to censure the Soviet Union for downing a civilian airplane on 1 September, but the government had already expressed its stand in reprimanding the Soviet behavior.

Mr Lim said that those members of Parliament did not understand that Parliament and the government are two different things. If Parliament had passed the motion to censure the Soviet barbaric conduct, it would have strengthened our government's position domestically and in world opinion.

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CSO: 4205/20

PHILIPPINES

HONG KONG GROUP SUBMITS INVESTMENT PROPOSAL

HK021246 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 2 Jan 84 p 2

[Text] A group of Hong Kong investors have submitted to President Marcos a proposal to allow them to invest in the Philippines the amount of \$500,000 each which will entitle them to the issuance of a "Philippine investor passport" and granting them permanent residence status here, a high government source disclosed to BUSINESS DAY yesterday.

In addition, as Philippine passport holders, the Hong Kong investors are asking for "freedom of movement."

The proposal is different from Presidential Decree Nos 1623 and 1789, which provide foreign investors who have brought in \$75,000 (recently reduced from \$250,000) to a special investors' resident visa and allow foreign investors to invest in the nonpioneer industries and enterprises up to 100 percent equity participation.

Under the proposal, any Hong Kong businessman who invests \$500,000 in any accepted foreign currency will be issued a Philippine passport which will qualify him to stay here permanently and receive the same treatment as a Filipino.

Because of the legal question involved, the proposal has been endorsed for legal study, the source said.

Special Legislation

The source added that the proposal would need a special legislation from the Batasang Pambansa or a presidential decree for approval as present laws provide that "only Filipino citizens" can be issued a Philippine passport.

The Hong Kong investors have been exploring other countries as potential areas for investment, such as Taiwan, Singapore, Malaysia and the Pacific Basin islands to transfer their investments before the expiration of the British lease over Hong Kong by 1997.

The Hong Kong investors said that China has made it clear that it would urge the return of Hong Kong in June 1997 when the treaty between imperial China and Queen Victoria leasing the territory to Britain for 99 years expires.

The Hong Kong investors said they find the Philippines an "attractive place for investment."

They also said that if their proposal is "given the go-signal" by the government, some 100 businessmen have pledged to invest in the country. This may mean some \$5 to \$10 million new investment pouring into the country.

CSO: 4200/366

PHILIPPINES

INDUSTRY FACES 'MOST DIFFICULT PERIOD'

HK070217 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 6 Jan 84 p 2

[Article by Reporter Daniel C. Yu: "Industries Face Long Dry Spell in Trade Financing"]

[Text] Industries are bracing for what may become the most difficult period in their history as the continued "drought" in trade-related financing is forcing many firms to reexamine their corporate positions to align them with present business realities.

No longer is the problem of securing foreign exchange for import requirements considered just temporary. Rather industry leaders are being made to realize that the foreign exchange problem will last longer than anticipated.

These realities were made clear to businessmen yesterday during another meeting of the joint Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry-Ministry of Trade and Industry balance-of-payment [PCCI-MTI BOP] task force.

Raul Concepcion, chairman of the PCCI-MTI BOP task force, yesterday confirmed fears expressed by some businessmen that the dry spell in foreign exchange which began in October last year is not a shortterm problem.

Grim Reality

Concepcion said that feedback from both government and private banking sources have confirmed the grim reality that the foreign exchange bottleneck will last through the whole of 1984 and well into the next year.

This is the reason why, Concepcion stressed, businesses will have to cooperate in working out an equitable foreign exchange allocation program for the next two years so as not to unduly affect business operations and reduce the expected number of business closures due to the current crisis.

He said that some industry leaders have in the past been reluctant to work with the joint private sector-government committee to thresh out the problem thinking that the foreign exchange bottleneck is but an interim difficulty which will be resolved as soon as the International Monetary Fund standby credit facility is approved.

Association presidents from 25 industry groups met with the task force yesterday to come up with an acceptable allocation scheme to cover industries which are at the moment not included in the Central Bank [CB] priority list.

Foreign exchange allocation has so far been limited to importation of raw materials of export producers and eight vital industries, namely, petroleum and petrochemical based industries, food grains and food products, fertilizers and pesticides, medicinal and pharmaceuticals, textile fibers for basic clothing, livestock, iron and steel and paper products.

The CB last Monday agreed in principle to make foreign exchange available to all industries to avert massive layoffs and business failures.

A. Lewis Burridge, president of the American Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines and member of the BOP task force said that companies will have to cooperate now in order to insure that no one firm "is left out in the cold."

Long-Term Problem

"We will have to perform effectively," Burridge said. He said the country faces a long-term problem that will only be resolved when the country achieves a foreign exchange balance or surplus, or when there will be made available enough impetus to attract foreign investments into the Philippines.

Burridge added that the country will have to reduce the size of its debt to manageable levels as a means to limit the period of crisis which the Philippines is facing now.

Earnest Khan, cochairman of the task force said that in addition, the task force will begin the monitoring of layoffs from industrial firms and other businesses. He said that this will help in providing the government with signals on the conditions of business establishments and act on emergencies immediately whenever the need arises.

Very Tight

Foreign exchange availability has remained very tight and businessmen yesterday tried to iron out workable schemes in order to make the allocation more equitable.

Many industry officials including those lumped under the CB list of vital industries complained that they still cannot get their foreign exchange requirements to import required raw materials.

CSO: 4200/366

PHILIPPINES

MANILA DAILY ON DIFFICULTIES IN ECONOMIC REVIVAL

HK070215 Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 6 Jan 84 p 4

[Editorial: "Monumental Job"]

[Text] It is the reality behind the figures that makes an economic recovery program a difficult undertaking.

Take the case of the public school teachers. It was reported yesterday that 3,500 public high school teachers in Metro Manila had staged a sitdown strike to press their demand for higher pay.

That demand should be appreciated in the light of the stabilization program proposed by the government to the country's creditors which consists in part in trimming the budgetary deficit from an estimated P [peso] 7.6 billion in 1983 to P 6.5 billion in 1984.

It should also be considered in the light of the ballooning unemployment situation.

While economic logic strongly argues against wage increases for government workers, it is difficult for people in the situation of the teachers to accept the argument.

Or take the case of credit. The Central Bank restricts the growth of credit in order to avoid high inflation and minimize pressure on the currency. On the other hand, many businessmen think that credit has been inordinately tight and the restrictions imposed by the Central Bank do not seem to take into account the greater need for credit brought about the devaluation of the currency.

Central Bank Gov Jaime C. Laya articulated the situation correctly when he said the reorganization of the external debt will require a tremendous effort to implement and that the task of stabilizing the financial system this year will be a monumental job.

It would help to let the public know what to expect this year. The statistics of a recovery program may hide, for a great many citizens, many unpalatable truths.

CSO: 4200/366

PHILIPPINES

BRIEFS

NEW UNIFIED COMMAND IN LUZON--Armed Forces Chief of Staff General Fabian Ver will induct today Brigadier General Jose Magno Jr as commander of Regional Unified Command [RUC2 No 3, based at Camp Olivas, San Fernando, Pampanga. Camp Aquinaldo says the activation of the unified command is part of the restructuring of the armed forces of the Philippines under the president's government reorganization program. The story from correspondent Jun Francisco: [Begin recording] RUC 3 embraces military and police elements in Bulacan, Nueva Ecija, Tarlac, Pampanga, Zambales, Bataan, and Aurora. These are the provinces in PC-INP [Philippines Constabulary-Integrated National Police] Region 3 under Brigadier General Bienvenido Felix. Only five of the PC-INP regional commands have not been reconstituted. [end recording] [Text] [HK060454 Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 0400 GMT 6 Jan 84]

ANTITERRORIST CAMPAIGN BOLSTERED--The Civil Relations Service [CRS] of the armed forces has organized teams called the (Pancat Sutan) to bolster the government's operation against the New People's Army, the Moro National Liberation Front, and other terrorist groups. The first of these teams, composed of 7 officers and 33 enlisted personnel, left this morning for Davao City on board 2 Philippine Air Force C-130 transports. Led by a certain Captain (Cabaron), the team will beef up the 11th Civil Relations Group in Davao where terrorist groups appear to be accelerating their information drive in an effort to replenish their personnel losses during the past year. Brigadier General (Pacifico Lopez Deleon), commanding general of the CRS, led the sendoff ceremonies for the (Pancat Sutan). [Text] [OW111411 Quezon City RPN Television Network in English 1100 GMT 10 Jan 84]

TERRORISTS KILLED IN CAGAYAN--Two communist terrorists were killed while another was wounded in Cagayan Valley encounters. Reports from the PC [Philippine Constabulary] provincial commander in (Tuguegarao) said the slain terrorists were identified as (Sorenco Ballesteros), alias (K Caerwin) of Ilocos Norte, and a certain (Miguel), alias (Caarde) of Cagayan. The wounded was identified as (Robert Ugord), alias (Carglen). A third terrorist identified as (Orlandos) escaped from the clashes with PC troopers in (Gonzaga), Cagayan, last Sunday. [Text] [OW111347 Quezon City RPN Television Network in English 1300 GMT 11 Jan 84]

CSO: 4200/366

THAILAND

BELL HELICOPTER DEADLINED FOR SPARE PARTS

Bangkok BAN MUANG in Thai 17 Oct 83 pp 1,16

Text Reports said the Aviation Center of the Army submitted a request to the commander-in-chief of the Army and asked him to expedite the repair of two Bell 214 helicopters which the Army has been using, but which have been out of order for more than a year because spare parts cannot be procured.

The two Bell 214B helicopters have been out of use since the end of 1982, mainly because of lack of spare parts needed for repair. Moreover, the fact that they have been out of use too long may lead to other parts of the helicopter getting out of order. The main spare parts that the Bell 214B helicopters have been waiting for range from the FCU system, which is a gas distribution control system, gas tanks, and seals for rotor blades, which are leaking. Particularly, the gas distribution control system has been expected for more than a year. We would like to purchase two of these systems. The company that produces these parts wanted to charge us as much as 3.5 million baht apiece. This is because they said they had none of these parts in stock. They said if they had to send us some, they would have to produce new ones, which would make the cost of production very high for them. Eventually, we had to take these two worn out parts to a private company abroad and asked the company to repair them for us. The company said it would take at least 120 days before we would get the parts back.

In any case, even if the gas distribution control systems are repaired, the Operation Center of the Army is not certain that the Aviation Center of the Army can get the two helicopters operating again. This is because they have been parked for more than a year. Other parts of the engine may have gone bad.

The Army purchased the Bell 214B helicopters and deployed them in January 1978, a total of more than 5 years, but they have had only 436 hours and 590 hours of flying time respectively, which are considered to be very small numbers of flying time.

Reports said that when the Bell 214B helicopters were purchased, it was said that they had the potential capacity to lift a 105mm artillery /piece/ in any weather condition. But in reality, they could carry such artillery only in good weather. And a Bell helicopter is known to have dropped a 105mm artillery /piece/ over a mountain area because it could not sustain the weight. The problem of helicopter parts shortage will have a vital effect on the capability of the Thai Armed Forces in the future, if nothing is done to bring about improvement.

Reports said Gen Athit Kamlang-ek, Commander-in-Chief of the Army, has been following the news about the depreciation of the Bell 214B helicopters and the news about a proposal to be made that two additional helicopters, Bell 214ST, be purchased. The Bell 214ST helicopters have the same engines as those of the Bell 214B. The only difference is that the Bell 214ST has two additional engines. The problem that will follow may be the same as that which exists now.

It is for this reason that the Army is considering the Sikorsky helicopters in order to compare the prices and the quality of the two types of helicopters. This will be done by directly contacting the producing company, as has been done with the Bell company, without going through the U.S. Department of Defense because the latter would push the price up too high.

12282
CSO: 4207/34

THAILAND

ROADS TO BE BUILT AFTER SURVEY OF MALAYSIAN BORDER AREA

Bangkok DAO SIAM in Thai 12 Oct 83 pp 7,5

/Text/ Mr Thien Suwannarat, district officer of Yaha, Yala Province, met with Pilot Officer Nisit Al-pat, governor of Yala, to report the result of a road survey from Bala Village in Yaha District, Yala, to the Malaysian border in the Kedah area.

The survey of a road to be built toward the border area is the idea of Governor Nisit Al-pat of Yala and is designed as a response to Section Two of the Peace for the South Policy formulated by Lt Gen Han Lenanond, commander of the Fourth Army Region, which says that the Thai-Malaysian border area must be made a safety zone so that the economy of the border provinces can be restored and improved.

Besides, Governor Nisit Al-pat also hopes to carry out the communications, agricultural, economic, and social development of the area. He, therefore, assigned Mr Thien Suwannarat, the district officer of Yaha, with his team, to conduct a survey of a route to the Malaysian border from Bala Village in Yaha District. The team made the survey of a communication route to the Kedah area of Malaysia's border between Markstone 34 to Markstone 34-A. The total distance of the route is more than 13 kilometers. The survey team received good cooperation from the villagers. And Governor Nisit Al-pat of Yala has a plan to build a road from Yaha District to the Malaysian border area as soon as possible in order to increase the revenues of the people and to promote international tourism from Malaysia as well.

12282
CSO: 4207/34

THAILAND

MONG REMNANTS FLEE FIGHTING

Bangkok DAO SIAM in Thai 12 Oct 83 p 16

/Text/ DAO SIAM's Nongkhai Province correspondent reported that on 11 October, at 9:00 am, Captain Yongporee, 45, head of Mong soldiers under the command of Gen Vang Pao--together with 16 of his supporters with three rifles, one of which is an .88mm small rifle, 70 cartridges of ammunition and 2 carbines, and 2 full magazines of ammunition-- surrendered to Police Captain Chan Chai-on, duty officer of the provincial police station at Pakchom District, Loei Province, in order to seek political assylum. The duty officer in turn reported to Pol Lt Col Kosol Chaowathanin, police inspector general. The latter then reported to the representative of the high commissioner of the United Nations at a refugee camp at Ban Pinai, Pekchom District. This was done in respective order.

Thereafter, reporters were told by Captain Yongporee, the Mong officer, that he and his supporters were soldiers under the command of Gen Vang Pao and that they were stationed at Yan Lao Sung Village. Vietnam's First Division soldiers and the Red Lao soldiers were conducting a mop-up operation. As a result they clashed with Captain Yongporee and his men in an intense fight. But Gen Vang Pao's forces were smaller, and were broken up and made to flee. Captain Yongporee gathered his men together; he managed to have only 16 with arms. They fled into Thailand by swimming, with only their heads up, across the Mekong River. In the course of their crossing, they lost 13 rifles because of strong currents. They landed at Nong Village, Ban Muang Hamlet, Sangkom District, Nongkhai Province, which lies in between Pakchom and Sangkom districts. They then walked along the river bank to the refugee camp.

12282
CSO: 4207/34

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

GROUP OF DIVISIONS HOLDS EMULATION CONFERENCE

BK060550 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1400 GMT 4 Jan 84

[Text] The group of divisions currently performing international duty recently held a conference to report their emulation achievements in 1983 and to unify guidance for the emulation activities in 1984.

Despite many difficulties in organizing their livelihood in 1983 because the units had to perform many of their tasks in several complicated areas, they have satisfactorily assisted friendly units in developing production and improving living conditions. Together with the people and administration in localities, they have firmly maintained political security and social order and security.

Divisions "T" and "1" have helped the people build dozens of schools, dispensaries, and houses as well as develop production.

In developing and consolidating units, attention was paid to consolidating the party and youth organizations and to creating a broad and enthusiastic atmosphere of emulation within units.

Divisions "B-39" and "B-30" have satisfactorily fulfilled their periodic training tasks for 1983. Although operating in hardship areas where the Pol Pot remnants often come from Thailand to conduct harassing and provocative activities, the cadres and combatants of division "B-39" are constantly increasing their combat strength and coordinating with friendly troops to fight the enemy effectively.

The conferrees also pointed out the weaknesses in the 1983 emulation movement. The movement was still unevenly and unsatisfactorily organized in the primary units of some divisions, and work efficiency was still at a low level. In some other units, the overfulfillment of emulation norms was not considerable when compared with 1982.

The conferrees also unanimously approved the measures to guide the emulation movement in the future. They stressed that if the emulation movement was to be accelerated, leading and commanding units must refer to the scope and mission of the divisions and take specific measures to guide the emulation tasks of each primary unit. Only by doing so can we correct deviations

to keep the movement in the right direction and can we take prompt action to detect and develop advanced models and widely disseminate good examples for other units to learn and follow.

One of the important measures which was heatedly discussed was the creation of a firm and deep-rooted base for the movement and the assurance of consistency in the emulation movement from the staff agencies to the various primary units.

CSO: 4209/117

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

CLANDESTINE RADIOS REPORT MILITARY ACTIVITY

Suppression of FULRO Sympathizers

BK310918 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT
30 Dec 83

[Text] On 12 October, 30 Vietnamese soldiers arrested and executed without reason many Dega-FULRO people in (Kan Trinh Cha Nam Yang) village, (Buon Ha Kung Tho Ac) District.

On 28 October, the Le Duan Vietnamese enemy put poison in alcohol. A Dega-FULRO inhabitant was killed on the spot after drinking this alcohol. Many others were affected.

These savage acts of the Le Duan Vietnamese enemy have strongly upset the Dega-FULRO people. They have cooperated with the Dega-FULRO people. They have cooperated with the Dega-FULRO guerrillas in the struggle against the Vietnamese enemy aggressors every day.

Oxen Taken From Villagers

BK080715 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 1000 GMT 6 Jan 84

[Text] On 25 October 1983, soldiers of the Le Duan clique forced people in the (Kanh Triek Cha) region, Central Vietnam, to give them an ox per village. These oxen were killed and used as food when they launched operations against the guerrillas in this region. The report says that if the people in any village who did not give them oxen, they would be accused by Le Duan soldiers as opposing the Le Duan clique. Le Duan soldiers could arrest, imprison, or even execute these villagers as they wished. The savage and barbarous acts of the Le Duan clique over the poor Vietnamese people have angered them. They have waged a stronger struggle against the Le Duan clique everywhere.

Chemical Weapons in Central Highlands

BK081006 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 1000 GMT 7 Jan 84

[Text] According to a report from Vietnam, during the current dry season, the Vietnamese Le Duan soldiers launched several search-and-destroy operations against the guerrillas in the Central Highlands of Vietnam.

According to this report, the Vietnamese Le Duan clique has used all kinds of cruel and barbarous methods in an attempt to crush the struggle waged against it by the people in this region. Recently, the clique used toxic chemical weapons in a systematic manner in the outlaying remote area. In fact, in mid-October 1983, the Vietnamese Le Duan soldiers spread toxic chemicals in water in streams, ponds, and water jars of the people, seriously poisoning many people in (Kantreak Cha) hamlet.

The Vietnamese Le Duan clique is very cruel and barbarous. It has used chemical weapons to exterminate the Kampuchean, Lao, and other ethnic minorities in Vietnam. The Kampuchean, Lao, Vietnamese, and world people will never pardon these crimes of the Vietnamese Le Duan clique.

SRV Troops Raid Central Highlands

BK101642 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 1000 GMT 10 Jan 84

[Text] According to a report from Vietnam, on 12 December 1983 a platoon of the Vietnamese Le Duan soldiers arrested and killed an inhabitant of (Kantreak Cha Yang Ma) hamlet, (Buon Hakum Ch'ak) District, Central Highlands of Vietnam, for no reason at all. This enraged the people in the Central Highlands of Vietnam. They have resolutely opposed the Vietnamese Le Duan clique.

According to the report, violations of human rights in Vietnam are being committed more cruelly. This is why the people of all nationalities and political trends have despised the Le Duan clique's fascist and dictatorial regime. Unable to live under the Le Duan clique's fascist and dictatorial regime, some Vietnamese nationals have been compelled to risk fleeing from the country while others have fled into the jungle to wage a struggle against the clique. Such phenomena have taken place throughout Vietnam.

Guerrillas Action in Central Vietnam

BK11225 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 1000 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Text] Here is a battle report from Vietnam.

Play Cu battlefield: On 25 December 1983, the guerrillas of the Central Highlands of Vietnam attacked the Vietnamese Le Duan soldiers at (O Ya Laov)

in (Phat Maraong) District, killing one and wounding two. On 29 December, the guerrillas attacked the Vietnamese Le Duan soldiers at (Nuon Thlai) hamlet, killing two and seizing an AR-15.

An Me Thuot battlefield: On 19 December, the guerrillas attacked the Vietnamese Le Duan soldiers south of (Chi Man) in (Buon Hakum) District, killing 10 and seizing 4 AK's. On 21 December, the guerrillas attacked the Vietnamese Le Duan soldiers east of [words indistinct], 4 km from (Kantreak Cha Ya Trang) commune, killing four and seizing four AK's. On 23 December, the guerrillas attacked the Vietnamese Le Duan soldiers at (Buon Ku Tlea) hamlet, killing one and wounding two.

In sum, during these 5 days, the guerrillas killed or wounded 22 Vietnamese Le Duan soldiers and seized 6 [figure as heard] weapons.

CSO: 4212/24

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

POSSIBLE TROOP WITHDRAWAL FROM PRK DISCUSSED

BK201138 Hong Kong AFP in English 1115 GMT 20 Dec 83

[Text] Hanoi, 20 Dec (AFP)--Indochinese foreign ministers could decide on a further partial withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Cambodia at a meeting scheduled for early January in Vientiane, reliable sources said here today. No timetable was given for any further pullout, but an announcement of such a move could coincide roughly with celebrations marking the 5th anniversary of the fall of the Pol Pot regime in Cambodia and its replacement by the Hanoi-backed government of Heng Samrin on January 7, the sources said.

Phnom Penh had earlier let it be known that the anniversary celebrations would be attended by Vietnamese President Truong Chinh, although there has been no official confirmation of this.

Chiefs of State of the three Indochinese countries--Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia--announced at the end of a summit in Vientiane in February that partial withdrawals of Vietnamese troops from Cambodia would be carried out annually "in line with the security situation in Kampuchea (Cambodia)."

Hanoi then proceeded with two partial troop withdrawals in July 1982 and May 1983. The second pullout, involving some 10,000 men, was witnessed by Western journalists invited by Hanoi. Western estimates put total Vietnamese troop strength in Cambodia at from 150,000-170,000 men.

Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach, who hinted at the possibility of new troop withdrawals next year during remarks to the United Nations General Assembly session in October, said later in Paris that his country's soldiers would remain in Cambodia "at least five more years."

CSO: 4200/330

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

BRIEFS

UNIVERSITY, COLLEGE MILITARY EDUCATION--Hanoi, 24 Dec (VNA)--Military education has so far been introduced into 20 universities and colleges in Vietnam. Like other departments at the colleges, the military department is placed under the direct control of the directors and party committees at the colleges while the instructors are supplied by the Ministry of Defence. The program includes national defence education, military training and the training of reserve army officers. The department has also the task of acquainting the students with the military way of life and looking after some other aspects of the college's work. The Defence Ministry supplies the schools with necessary equipment and weapons for training purposes. The military departments at the polytechnics of Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City have opened regular refresher courses for their military instructors. The one at the Hanoi University is assisted by the command of the chemical force of the army which sent it both equipment and instructors. [Text] [OW241948 Hanoi VNA in English 1455 GMT 24 Dec 83]

CSO: 4200/330

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

NHAN DAN COMMENTS ON 38TH UNGA SESSION

BK241521 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 24 Dec 83

[Text] In a commentary on the closing of the 38th session of the UN General Assembly after 3 months of work, the Hanoi daily NHAN DAN quotes Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach as saying in his speech that there is only one way: peaceful coexistence among countries of different social systems, respect of nations' right to self-determination, and peaceful settlement of differences on the basis of equality and mutual respect.

The newspaper of the Communist Party of Vietnam said: The overwhelming subject of debate is how to preserve peace, prevent threat of a nuclear war, stop the arms race, and carry out disarmament. Delegates from 158 UN member countries discussed 145 subjects in the agenda, concentrating on the most burning issues of the time.

At this session, almost all delegates stressed the urgency of disarmament, the struggle for peace, detente, as well as the national independence and sovereignty of all nations, and against the imperialist bloc of aggression. At this session, U.S. President Reagan made what he called a new proposal ostensibly to promote the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks. In fact, this proposal is an attempt to force a Soviet unilateral disarmament. The hypocrisy of the U.S. President shown in his proposal sharply contrast, with the good will of the Soviet Union, which has been expounded in the speech of the Soviet deputy head delegate, Mr (Troyanovski).

The important peace initiatives put forth by the Soviet President Yuriy Andropov recently as well as the previous fair and reasonable proposals of the Soviet Union have won worldwide support. These proposals help form a worldwide front and guide the United Nations in the struggle for peace, detente, disarmament, and against the arms race; and shed light on the isolation suffered by the United States and its allies in their obstinate opposition to peace.

In the final days of the session, the UN General Assembly passed resolutions of high importance to world peace and security. They are the resolution on the status quo of maintenance of the nuclear arsenal, the resolution banning all nuclear arms threats, and the resolution condemning the nuclear war as the most barbarous crime against nations. The drafts of these resolutions had been done by the Soviet Union. The overwhelming majority of the UN member countries, but for the United States, have voted for these resolutions. The United States cast 13 votes against and 2 abstentions in the 17 voting times on nuclear arms reduction resolutions. This has further proved the U.S. bellicosity and isolation in the most important issue.

Many delegates also condemned the United States for colluding with other reactionary forces to oppose independence and sovereignty of all nations. In particular, Washington's open invasion of Grenada has further exposed to the national independent countries the brutal and bellicose nature of the U.S. imperialists. The resolutions on Central America and Grenada, and especially the one tabled by Nicaragua, which demands U.S. troop withdrawal from Grenada, an end to U.S. encirclement and provocation against Nicaragua. Maintenance of peace and stability in Central America and the Caribbean, was unanimously adopted at the UN General Assembly.

The UN General Assembly has adopted 14 resolutions on decolonization, reaffirming the right to self-determination of the nations through existing means, calling on the colonialist powers to dismantle all their military bases on dependent territories, condemning the imperialist forces for obstruction the implementation of the resolution on decolonization.

The UN General Assembly was held at a time when the developing countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America are being confronted with serious difficulties due to the influence of the world economic crisis caused by capitalism. The economy of several developing countries is heading toward the brink of collapse.

The seventh summit of the nonaligned countries held in New Delhi recently played an important role at the 38th session of the UN General Assembly. The situation in Southeast Asia has been dealt with in many speeches at the session. Many delegates have acclaimed and fully supported the good will and constructive stand of Vietnam, Laos, and Kampuchea in solving the pending issues in the region and stressed that dialogue with a view to seeking a fair solution to all issues in Southeast Asia is the only correct way.

The Albanian Government's decision to recognize the PRK and to call on the world community to acknowledge the reality in Kampuchea is an important political issue, further illuminating the just cause and certainly victorious struggle of the Kampuchean people.

Meanwhile, the Australian Government's refusal to cosponsor a draft resolution on the so-called Kampuchea issue of the ASEAN countries put forth at the UN General Assembly has embarrassed Beijing and the ASEAN countries, which reacted against Australia's decision.

Australia's act, as well as other views of many delegates to this world body, has brought out the fact that public opinion in many countries has been coming out strongly against the genocidal Pol Pot clique and their masters and recognizing the ever stable situation in Kampuchea. The coalition government of Kampuchea fostered by Beijing is landing into utter isolation.

The UN General Assembly had discussed the question of a Southeast Asia of peace, stability, and cooperation put forth by Vietnam and adopted a resolution on further discussion of this question at the 39th session and taken note of exchanged views destined to promote peace and stability in Southeast Asia.

This further demonstrated that the trend of dialogue in this region has been supported and encouraged by the world community as clearly elaborated by Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach as saying in his speech that there is only one way: peaceful coexistence among countries of different social systems, respect for nations' right to self-determination, and peaceful settlement of differences on the basis of equality and mutual respect. That is the correct way to solve the world issues and regional issues as well. That is also the correct way toward this Southeast Asian region.

CSO: 4200/330

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

USSR, LPDR, PRK DEFENSE MINISTERS' GREETINGS

BK231845 Hanoi VNA in English 1653 GMT 23 Dec 83

[Text] Hanoi, 23 Dec (VNA)--The defence ministers of the Soviet Union, Laos and Kampuchea have extended their warmest greetings to General Van Tien Dung, minister of national defence, on the occasion of the 39th anniversary of the Vietnam People's Army.

The messages were sent by D.F. Ustinov, Khamtai Siphandon and Bou Thang.

The Soviet defence minister wrote: "The Vietnamese People's Armed Forces founded by the Communist Party of Vietnam in a long struggle have regained freedom, independence and unity for their country. At a time when U.S. imperialism is increasing its threat to peace, the Vietnamese combatants are vigilantly guarding the fruits of the people's revolution, firmly defending the independence and sovereignty of Socialist Vietnam in face of the schemes of the reactionary forces."

The message of the Lao national defence minister said: "Today, the Vietnam People's Army has become a strong revolutionary army with ever higher combat capacity. It has, together with the entire people, successfully coped with Beijing expansionism and hegemonism in collaboration with the U.S. imperialists and other reactionary forces, firmly defending the fatherland and the socialist construction in Vietnam while discharging its noble socialist construction in Vietnam while discharging its noble internationalist duty, thus making active contributions to the struggle for peace, national independence and social progress of nations the world over."

The Kampuchean defence minister said in his message: "The people and the People's Army of Kampuchea will forever remember the services of the fraternal people and the People's Army of Vietnam who have saved the Kampuchean people from the genocide perpetrated by the Pol Pot-Leng Sary-Khieu Samphan clique. Their generous assistance and noble internationalism are inspiring us strongly in all fields of our national construction and defence efforts."

CSO: 4200/330

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

HISTORIAN VIEWS SOUTHEAST ASIA SITUATION, KAMPUCHEA ISSUE

BK261401 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 26 Dec 83

[*"Translation"* of article by historian Nguyen Khac Vien: "Close Neighbors"]

[Text] Two years ago I was invited to give lectures at Chulalongkon and Chiang Mai colleges respectively in Bangkok and northern Thailand. The first and deepest impression I had when I set foot on Thailand--whether in the city or in the fields around Bangkok or in the mountains around Chiang Mai--is the very familiarity. Also ricefields and bamboo groves and coconut trees, also tropical forests, ecological environment, and tropical winds with the sharp contrast between the two seasons--the rainy and the dry seasons. Archaeological researches conducted in Vietnam and Thailand in the past years show the many familiar cultural characteristics of the two countries in the Iron and Bronze Ages. Other documents reveal that many legends, customs, and modes of production in Thailand are very familiar with that [as heard] of Vietnam.

From this point of fact, people can speak of the common age-old culture of Southeast Asia which they believe to be classified later into different national cultures. In the past 3 centuries, from the 17th to the 20th century, Southeast Asian countries were time and again invaded by Western countries and turned into their colonies. The ruling colonialists and imperialists then colluded with the local feudalists to keep the societies of these Southeast Asian countries in backwardness. So, all these Southeast Asian nations shared the same aspirations, namely to gain national independence and then transform their societies. The familiar geological and historical situation and the same aspirations are two important factors which have made nations in Southeast Asia become close to one another.

During my visit to Thailand, I had a chance to discuss the current affairs with many Thai intellectuals. All those intellectuals rejected the propaganda contention by the imperialist forces and the Beijing leadership. They all realized that the ASEAN and Indochinese countries share the common interests for peace and stability in building their countries. Though having different social systems, the Southeast Asian nations have many things to discuss and exchange their experiences [sentence as heard]. Many Thai intellectuals are deeply interested in Vietnam's experiences in economic and social transformation. The exchange of experiences in agricultural production, public health, education, and natural and social sciences between nations is for mutual benefit; and of course, there remain many differences. The problem is we should understand each other and promote dialogue.

Take the presence of Vietnamese volunteer troops in Kampuchea for instance. I and several Thai intellectuals recalled that after occupying three provinces in Eastern Nam Bo, South Vietnam proper, in 1862, the following year the French colonialists seized Phnom Penh and from there, they invaded, attacked and seized three provinces in Western Nam Bo. Thus, the Vietnamese and Kampuchean peoples were constantly threatened by the same invaders. And that was the reason why the patriots of the two countries felt bound together in their common struggle against the enemy.

In 1863 Vietnamese and Kampuchean insurgents were fighting shoulder to shoulder against the French. In the 1945-1954 anti-French resistance period, Vietnamese army volunteers came to help the Kampucheans. From 1954 to 1970, when Kampuchea became an independent and neutral country, there were no Vietnamese troops in that country. From 1970, when the United States interfered in Kampuchea, the then Phnom Penh government again asked for the help of Vietnamese troops till 1975. Between 1975 and 1978 there were again no Vietnamese troops in Kampuchea. But under the Pol Pot regime, with the help of 20,000 Chinese specialists, the genocidal Pol Pot army equipped with many weapons cracked down upon the Kampuchean people and waged war against Vietnam. The Kampuchean patriotic people again requested the assistance of Vietnamese army volunteers. As stipulated in the Treaty of Peace, Friendship, and Cooperation signed between the Governments of the SRV and the PRK, all Vietnamese army volunteers will be withdrawn from Kampuchea when there is no more threat by China and at the request of the Kampuchean Government. Then, all Vietnamese troops will be pulled out from Kampuchea as they did in 1954 and 1975.

Many people in the ASEAN countries in general and Thailand in particular are also convinced that the threat against the Southeast Asian countries stems from China. Such a situation demands the eradication of this threat and the promotion of the trend of dialogue in Southeast Asia.

Having undergone protracted wars, the Vietnamese people have no other desire than to live in peace and stability to heal the war wounds and build their country. Together with Laos and Kampuchea, Vietnam has advanced many constructive initiatives based on the spirit of cooperation and mutual respect, mutual benefit, without interference in each other's internal affairs, and peaceful coexistence. This truly conforms to the interests of the Southeast Asian countries, to the lofty objectives of the Nonaligned Movement, and the common trend of the world.

CSO: 4200/330

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

VARIOUS COUNTRIES SEND GREETINGS ON VPA ANNIVERSARY

Socialist Countries

OW241946 Hanoi VNA in English 1505 GMT 24 Dec 83

[Text] Hanoi, 24 Dec (VNA)--Defence Minister General Van Tien Dung has received messages of greetings from his counterparts in many socialist countries on the 39th anniversary of the Vietnam People's Army (December 22).

The messages were sent from General Raul Castro Ruz, minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of the Republic of Cuba; General Heinz Hoffmann, minister of national defence of the German Democratic Republic; General Martin Dzur, minister of national defence of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic; General Dobri Dzhurov, minister of national defence of the People's Republic of Bulgaria; and General O Chin-u, minister of the People's Armed Forces of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

In their messages, they praised the considerable achievements of the Vietnam People's Army in national defence and socialist construction, and wished for constant consolidation and development of the militant solidarity, close friendship and all-round cooperation between the peoples, especially the armed forces, of Vietnam and their respective countries.

Hungary, Poland, Romania Greetings

OW251733 Hanoi VNA in English 1636 GMT 25 Dec 83

[Text] Hanoi, 25 Dec (VNA)--On the occasion of the 39th anniversary of the Vietnam People's Army, Defence Minister General Van Tien Dung has received messages of greetings from his counterparts: General Lajos Czinege (Hungary), Colonel-General Florian Siwicki (Poland), Colonel-General Constantine Olteanu (Romania), and Brigadier-General Salih Qasim (People's Democratic Republic of Yemen).

CSO: 4200/330

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

REPORTAGE ON SRV-CUBAN ECONOMIC TALKS IN HAVANA

Cooperation Accord Signed

BK221003 Hanoi VNA in English 0757 GMT 22 Dec 83

[Text] Hanoi, 21 Dec (VNA)--The 7th session of the Vietnam-Cuba Intergovernmental Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technological Cooperation closed in Havana Tuesday after seven days sitting.

The minutes of the session were signed by Tran Quynh, member of Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers and Joel Domenech Benitez, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba and vice-president of the Council of Ministers, respectively heads of the two government economic delegations.

The two also signed an agreement on the joint implementation of the "common agreement on cooperation among the member countries in the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance for the quick developments of science and technology in the Republic of Cuba."

SRV Economic Delegation Departs

BK231838 Hanoi VNA in English 1711 GMT 23 Dec 83

[Text] Hanoi, 23 Dec (VNA)--A Vietnamese Government economic delegation led by Tran Quynh, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, left Havana December 21.

While in Cuba, the delegation attended the 7th session of the Vietnam-Cuba Intergovernmental Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technological Cooperation. It exchanged views with leading Cuban officials on measures to promote bilateral cooperation, especially in agriculture, foreign trade, post service, and public health.

The Vietnamese guests toured various economic, scientific and technical establishments in Havana and on Youth Island.

They were seen off at Jose Marti Airport by Joel Domenech, member of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee, vice president of the Council of Ministers and head of the Cuban Government Economic delegation; Faure Chomon Mediavilla, member of the C.P.C. CC and ambassador to Vietnam; Manuel Torrez, vice chairman of the State Committee for Economic Collaboration; and Hoang Luong, Vietnamese ambassador to Cuba.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

TRUONG CHINH VISITS ORPHANAGE IN PHNOM PENH

OW111213 Hanoi VNA in English 0845 GMT 11 Jan 84

[Text] Hanoi, 10 Jan VNA--The Vietnamese party and state delegation visited the Rose No 2 orphanage in Phnom Penh, during its stay there for the recent fifth anniversary of the People's Republic of Kampuchea.

The delegation, headed by Truong Chinh, Political Bureau member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and president of the State Council, was accompanied by Chan Si, Political Bureau member of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers; Hun Sen, Political Bureau member of the PRPK CC, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister for foreign affairs; and Kong Kom, vice-minister for foreign affairs.

The Vietnamese delegation was cordially welcomed by more than 400 children and the teaching staff of orphanage, who presented the guests with bouquets of flowers and tied red scarves around their necks.

Mrs Cheam Sangva, the head mistress, reported to the delegation on the achievements obtained by the orphanage since its founding in bringing up and educating the children, and showed it around the school.

President Truong Chinh was deeply moved at meeting with the orphans, victims of the genocidal Pol Pot regime. Like a flock of young birds they surrounded the president who told them to unite with and care for one another and to help one another in study and in training so as to build a new, prosperous and happy Kampuchea.

The Vietnamese president expressed the wish that the teaching staff will develop the gains already achieved and overcome the difficulties that still lie ahead so as to train the new generations to carry on the Kampuchean revolution.

CSO: 4200/364

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

ACTIVITIES OF PRK FRIENDSHIP DELEGATION NOTED

BK301658 Hanoi VNA in English 1545 GMT 30 Dec 83

[Text] Hanoi, 30 Dec (VNA)--The visiting delegation of the Kampuchea-Vietnam Friendship Association led by its president, Chan Ven, today called on the Executive Committee of the Vietnam-Kampuchea Friendship Association in Hanoi.

Kampuchean Ambassador to Vietnam Sieng Saran was present on the occasion.

Phan Dinh Vinh, vice-president of the Vietnam-Kampuchea Friendship Association, welcomed the delegation's visit to Vietnam at a time when the Vietnamese people are organizing the "Vietnam-Kampuchea Friendship Month" in Honour of the 5th National Day of Kampuchea. He wished the Kampuchean guests success in their visit.

Chan Ven said he highly valued the Vietnamese people's activities in this friendship month and expressed the Kampuchean people's profound gratitude to the Communist Party, the Government and the people of Vietnam, for their great assistance to the Kampuchean people in their national liberation struggle and in their revival.

The same day, the Kampuchean guests visited the offices of the Hanoi Party and people's committees and the Hanoi chapter of the Vietnam-Kampuchea Friendship Association.

They were warmly received by Le Van Luong, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and secretary of the Hanoi party committee, and other officials.

They participated in planting memorial trees in Hanoi's Lenin Park.

CSQ: 4200/364

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

BRIEFS

PRC-CGDK LEADERS MEET--Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping has received heads of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea. At the reception, Deng urged them to unite and promised to increase both economic and military aid to Khmer reactionaries. Sihanouk openly said at the press conference in Beijing that the distribution of this charity aid is not equal and this causes internal strife in the tripartite government. He also complained that the amount of weapons supplied by China to the Pol Pot-Khieu Samphan clique is bigger than to other Khmer groups. Public opinion said that this is another evidence showing China's obstinate attitude in maintaining the Pol Pot clique and other Khmer reactionaries to oppose the rebirth of the Kampuchean people and the three Indochinese countries and peace and stability in the region. [Text] [BK261335 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 26 Dec 83]

PRK, SRV, GDR ACCORD--Vietnam and Kampuchea on Wednesday signed in Hanoi a protocol on goods exchanges and payments between the two countries for 1984. Meanwhile, in Berlin the same day, an agreement on GDR assistance to the PRK was also signed. Under this agreement, the GDR will continue helping the Kampuchean people in building a new society, especially in the fields of public health and education. [Text] [BK221205 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 22 Dec 83]

CPV DELEGATION TO FRG--Hanoi, 4 Jan (VNA)--A delegation of the Communist Party of Vietnam has left here for Nuremberg in the Federal Republic of Germany to attend the Seventh Congress of the German Communist Party (DKP) at the invitation of the DKP Central Committee. The delegation is led by Dinh Nho Liem, member of the Central Committee of the CPV. [Text] [OW051121 Hanoi VNA in English 0802 GMT 5 Jan 84]

USSR PRESENTS TWO SHIPS--Hanoi, 23 Dec (VNA)--The Vietnamese Ministry for Communications and Transport received in Haiphong port city this morning two 2,650-ton freighters presented by the Soviet Government and Ministry for Merchant Marine to Vietnam. Present at the event on the Vietnamese side were Nguyen Tuong Lan, vice-minister for communications and transport; Nguyen Dan, chairman of the Haiphong People's Committee; Tran Xuan Nho, director of the General Department for Shipping. On the Soviet side were Ambassador B.N. Chaplin, consul-general V.P. Volkov, and representatives of the Soviet shipping service in Haiphong. Speaking on the occasion, B.N. Chaplin and Nguyen Tuong Lan exalted the friendship, solidarity and comprehensive cooperation between the parties,

governments and peoples of the Soviet Union and Vietnam in general and between the shipping services of the two countries in particular. Nguyen Tuong Lan thanked the Soviet Government and Ministry for Merchant Marine for their valuable assistance. [Text] [OW240933 Hanoi VNA in English 0906 GMT 24 Dec 83]

SOVIET HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL DELEGATION--Hanoi, 23 Dec (VNA)--A delegation of the U.S.S.R. State Committee for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Control led by its Vice-Chairman Yu. Sezunov, recently arrived in Vietnam on a visit. The delegation had working sessions with a delegation of the Vietnamese General Department for Meteorology and Hydrology. They reviewed the results of the recent joint air survey of the tropical atmosphere and the implementation of the 1983 cooperation agreements, and worked out a cooperation plan for 1984. It paid tribute at the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum and visited the late president's home and office. The Soviet guests were warmly received Thursday by Vice-Chairman of the Council of Ministers Vo Nguyen Giap, who praised the results of the Vietnam-U.S.S.R. cooperation in meteorological and hydrological research. He wished for further development of this cooperation. Vo Nguyen Giap thanked the Soviet hydrometeorological service for its great and effective assistance to Vietnam. Also present at the reception was Tran Van Am, director of the General Department of Meteorology and Hydrology. He signed with Yu. Sezunov the minutes of the 25th session of the two hydrometeorological services on the implementation of their cooperation agreement. During their stay, the Soviet guests toured several hydrometeorological facilities and scenic sites in Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City and the special zone of Vung Tau-Con Dao. [Text] [BK231829 Hanoi VNA in English 1721 GMT 23 Dec 83]

SOVIET RED CROSS DELEGATION--Hanoi, 23 Dec (VNA)--A delegation of the Union of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies led by A. Tyulyandin, president of the Red Cross Society of the Russian Soviet Socialist Republic, has arrived here for a visit as guest of the Vietnam Red Cross Society. It called at Red Cross facilities in Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City and in the provinces of (Ben Tre) and Tay Ninh. The Soviet guests were warmly received here today by Huynh Tan Phat, president of the Presidium of the Vietnam Fatherland Front Central Committee. Also today, A. Tyulyandin presented a token of goods to the Vietnam Red Cross Society as aid to flood victims in the central province of Binh Tri Thien. The goods included five tons of medicines, 3,000 milk tins, and 35 sets of medical instruments, valued at 50,000 rubles. [Text] [BK251115 Hanoi VNA in English 1732 GMT 23 Dec 83 BK]

PRK PROPAGANDA DELEGATION--Hanoi, 23 Dec (VNA)--A delegation of the Department for Propaganda and Training of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea led by Tev Ngoun, director of the "Light of Revolution" Publishing House, visited Vietnam from December 5 to 22, at the invitation of the Department for Propaganda and Training of the Communist Party of Vietnam. While in Vietnam, the delegation conferred with officials of the Department for Propaganda and Training, the higher party school, the Su That (Truth) and other publishing houses, and some departments of the Culture Ministry. The Kampuchean guests toured historic places and industrial, agricultural and transport and communications establishments

in Hanoi, Haiphong port city, Ha Nam Ninh and Hai Hung Provinces. They were warmly received by Dao Duy Tung, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and head of the Department for Propaganda and Training. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1718 GMT 23 Dec 83 BK]

VPA OBSERVATION IN LAOS--Hanoi, 23 Dec (VNA)--A delegation of Lao Ministry of National Defence called at the Vietnamese military attache's office in Vientiane Thursday on the occasion of the 39th founding anniversary of the Vietnam People's Army (VPA). The delegation was led by Lieutenant-General Siphon Phalikhan and Lieutenant-General Somsak Saengkham, both members of the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party and vice ministers of national defence. Lieutenant-General Siphon Phalikhan praised the glorious exploits of the Vietnamese Army and people in their resistance wars against foreign aggressions in the past as well as in their national construction and defence at present. He sincerely thanked the party, the government, the army and people of Vietnam for their great and effective support and assistance to the Lao revolution and exalted the special solidarity, militant alliance and all-round cooperation between Laos and Vietnam. On Thursday evening, Col Nguyen Dinh Chan, Vietnamese military attache in Laos, arranged a film show in honour of the VPA anniversary. It was attended by senior officers of the Lao Defence Ministry and representatives of mass organizations and public offices in Vientiane. [Excerpts] [Hanoi VNA in English 1714 GMT 23 Dec 83 BK]

MEXICAN AMBASSADOR--Hanoi, 22 Dec (VNA)--Gonzalez Galvez, the newly accredited ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the United States of Mexico, today made a courtesy call on President of the Council of State Truong Chinh. The Vietnamese president had a cordial conversation with the Mexican diplomat. With the president was Le Trang, deputy, director of the office of the National Assembly and of the State Council. [Text] [OW221600 Hanoi VNA in English 1523 GMT 22 Dec 83]

ARGENTINE PRESIDENT RECEIVES ENVOY--Hanoi, 20 Dec (VNA)--Dr Dante Cepupe, Argentinian foreign minister, received in Buenos Aires Vietnamese Ambassador Vu Song, envoy of State Council President Truong Chinh, who had come to attend the oathtaking ceremony for President Raul Alfonsin. Dante Cepupe praised the Vietnamese people's fighting spirit and sacrifices over the past decade for the liberation of the country from colonialist and imperialist domination, for the safeguarding of their independence and the opposition to all foreign interference in their domestic affairs. He expressed his wish for enhancement of cooperation between the two countries. During his stay in Argentina, Ambassador Vu Song visited the leadership of the Union Civica Radical (UCR), the ruling party in Argentina at present. He was warmly received by the general secretary of the UCR. He also called on the Communist Party of Argentina, the high party school and some other political parties. [Text] [BK210110 Hanoi VNA in English 1602 GMT 20 Dec 83]

SRV ENVOY TO SEYCHELLES--Hanoi, 16 Dec (VNA)--Seychellois President France Albert Rene expressed his wish to broaden cooperation with Vietnam while receiving Vietnamese Ambassador Mrs Phan Thi Minh Hien in Victoria recently. After presenting her credentials to the Seychellois president, Ambassador Phan Thi Minh Hien paid a courtesy visit to Guysinon, secretary general of the Seychellois People's Progressive Front. Guysinon expressed his admiration for the Vietnamese people's heroic struggle, and said the Seychellois people wished to learn from Vietnam's experiences. [Text] [OW170843 Hanoi VNA in English 0734 GMT 17 Dec 83]

INDIAN PARLIAMENTARIANS RECEIVED--Hanoi, 14 Dec (VNA)--A delegation of the Indian members of parliament and intellectuals led by Mr. J.H. Mohsin, deputy of the Indian National Congress Party (1) recently visited Vietnam. The delegation paid tribute at the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum and visited the late president's home and office. It was received here yesterday by Nguyen Huu Tho, vice-president of the State Council and chairman of the National Assembly. Present at the reception was Indian ambassador to Vietnam Kuldip Shadap. Chairman Nguyen Huu Tho welcomed the Indian people's achievements and said that the Vietnamese people greatly rejoice at the constant consolidation and development of friendship and cooperation between Vietnam and India, particularly over the recent years. He thanked the people, the members of parliament and the intellectuals of India for their warm sentiments and strong support to the Vietnamese people and said he highly valued India's contributions to the Non-aligned Movement and to the struggle for peace and social progress as a whole. The reception took place in a warm friendly atmosphere. The Indian guests held a media conference here before leaving for Ho Chi Minh City. They praised Vietnam's tradition of heroic struggle and expressed the Indian people's warm sentiments towards the Vietnamese people and reiterated the Indian people's unshakable solidarity and friendship with the Indochinese nations. [Text] [OW142145 Hanoi VNA in English 1522 GMT 14 Dec 83]

POLISH ENVOY CONFERS AWARD--Hanoi, 5 Jan VNA--Polish Ambassador Bronislaw Musielak today present [as received] here the "Militant Brotherhood" medal-lion of the Polish Defence Ministry to senior officers of the Vietnamese Defence Ministry and some other officers. Occasion is the 40th anniversary of the tradition day of the Polish People's Army. The military attache of the Polish Embassy and representatives of the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry were present at the ceremony. Senior Lieutenant General Le Trong Tan, member of the CPV Central Committee, vice-minister of national defence and chief on the General Staff of the Vietnam People's Army, on behalf of the recipients, warmly thanked the Polish Defence Ministry for the award which, he said, was a fine symbol of the constantly developing militant solidarity, friendship and cooperation between the peoples and armies of the two countries. [Text] [BK060159 Hanoi VNA in English 1550 GMT 5 Jan 84]

BURMESE NATIONAL DAY RECEPTION--Hanoi, 4 Jan (VNA)--Kyaw Thant, Burmese ambassador to Vietnam, gave a reception here this evening in honour of the 36th independence day of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma. His guests included Tran Quynh, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; Le Khac, minister of foreign trade; Ha Van Lau, deputy minister for foreign affairs; other high officials and members of the diplomatic corps. The Burmese ambassador and vice-chairman Tran Quynh proposed toasts to the further consolidation and development of the friendship and cooperation between the two countries in the interests of the two peoples and of peace, stability and prosperity in Southeast Asia. [Text] [OW051059 Hanoi VNA in English 0826 GMT 5 Jan 84]

INDUSTRIAL CROPS AREA EXPANDED IN 1983--Hanoi, 5 Jan (VNA)--In 1982, more than 298,000 hectares throughout the country were grown with long-term industrial plants, up by 10,000 hectares over 1982. The growing of important plants such as rubber, coffee and tea was extended: 100,000 hectares of rubber trees, 49,000 hectares of tea plants and 21,700 hectares of coffee. Vietnam is cooperating with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries in rubber and coffee growing in special areas of basaltic soil in southern provinces and on the central highlands. Last year, the Dau Tieng Rubber Company in Song Be Province which is a joint Vietnam-Soviet venture put 5,077 hectares under rubber trees, 1.5 percent more than planned. Dac Lac Province on the central highlands, a major coffee producer of the country, has planted 11,000 hectares with coffee trees, of which 6,700 hectares are run by the state farms and the rest by cooperatives, production groups and individual planters. Also in 1983, the provinces of Bac Thai, Vinh Phu, Hoang Lien Son Gia Lai-kontum and Lam Dong grew tea plants on 4,900 hectares. [Text] [OW060827 Hanoi VNA in English 0804 GMT 6 Jan 84]

DELEGATION DEPARTS FOR PRK--Hanoi, 6 Jan (VNA)--A high-level delegation of the Communist Party and the State of Vietnam left here today for Phnom Penh to attend the celebration of the fifth national day of the People's Republic of Kampuchea (Jan 7). The delegation, led by Truong Chinh, Political Bureau member of the CPV Central Committee and president of the State Council, includes Chu Huy Man, Political Bureau member of the CPV Central Committee and vice-president of the State Council; Nguyen Co Thach, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPV Central Committee and minister for foreign affairs; Nguyen Viet Dung, head of the office of the National Assembly and of the State Council; and Ngo Dien, Vietnamese Ambassador to Kampuchea. The delegation was farewelled at the presidential palace by Pham Van Dong, Political Bureau member of the CPV Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers; Pham Hung, Vo Chi Cong, To Huu, and Nguyen Duc Tam, all Political Bureau members of the CPV CC; Nguyen Huu Tho, vice-president of the State Council and chairman of the National Assembly; and other senior party and state officials. Kampuchean Ambassador Sieng Saran was also present. [Text] [OW070828 Hanoi VNA in English 0808 GMT 7 Jan 84]

S.AFRICAN 'AGGRESSION' AGAINST ANGOLA SCORED--Hanoi, 10 Jan (VNA)--The Vietnamese people and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam reaffirm their militant solidarity with and full support for the Angolan and Namibian people's just and surely victorious struggle, said Ambassador Le Kim Chung, Vietnamese representative to the United Nations, at the January 5 session of the UN Security Council on South Africa's most recent attacks on Angola. Le Kim Chung stressed that by committing aggression against Angola, the Pretoria regime had committed a crime against mankind and against peace. "It is time," he said, "for the international community to take more resolute actions to put an end to this intolerable state. The Non-aligned Movement has expressed its firm support for Angola, and declared that the aggression against this country is one against the whole movement. We must reinforce our multiform support for the Namibian people who are struggling under the leadership of SWAPO, and for the Angolan Government and people so that these countries may effectively strengthen their resistance against the South African aggressors." [Text] [OW101255 Hanoi VNA in English 0757 GMT 10 Jan 84]

AID FOR TYPHOON VICTIMS--Hanoi, 10 Jan (VNA)--Indonesian Ambassador to Vietnam Prasetyo handed over here today to Le Van, deputy head of the Committee for Reception of Foreign Aid, a cheque for U.S. \$10,000 as aid for typhoon victims in Vietnam. [Text] [OW111145 Hanoi VNA in English 0841 GMT 11 Jan 84]

BULGARIAN GOVERNMENT DELEGATION VISIT--Hanoi, 5 Jan (VNA)--At the invitation of Pham Van Dong, Political Bureau member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam and chairman of the Council of Ministers, a Bulgarian Government delegation will pay an official friendship visit to Vietnam in the second half of this month, the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry announces today. The delegation will be led by Grisha Filipov, Political Bureau member of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and chairman of the Council of Ministers. [Text] [BK060213 Hanoi VNA in English 1545 GMT 5 Jan 84]

EXHIBITION ON KAMPUCHEA--The Ministry of Culture on 2 January held an exhibition in Hanoi to mark the fifth national day of the PRK. Attending the opening day were Vice Culture Minister Nong Quoc Chan, Vice Foreign Affairs Minister Hoang Anh Tuan, representatives of the Vietnam-Kampuchea Friendship Association, and PRK Ambassador to Vietnam Sieng Saran. [Summary] [BK100349 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0400 GMT 3 Jan 84]

MESSAGE ON GUINEA EARTHQUAKE--SRV Council of State Chairman Truong Chinh recently sent a message to His Excellency Sekou Toure, president of the People's Revolutionary Republic of Guinea. The following is the full text of the message: Learning of the recent earthquake which caused losses to the Guinea people, on behalf of the Vietnamese people, the SRV Council of State, and myself, may I convey to you and through you, to victims of the earthquake, my deep sympathy. We believe that under the leadership of Your Excellency and the Government of the People's Revolutionary Republic of Guinea, the Guinean people will soon overcome the consequences of the earthquake. Your Excellency, please accept my respectful salutations. [Text] [BK060647 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 4 Jan 84]

CSO: 4209/117

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

LE THANH NGHI ADDRESSES HAI HUNG MEETING

OW101107 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 9 Jan 84

[Text] Recently, Comrade Le Thanh Nghi, member of the party Central Committee and vice chairman and concurrently secretary general of the Council of State, with a national assembly delegation from Hai Hung Province, attended the meeting of the Ninth Hai Hung Provincial People's Council and inspected the implementation of the province's socioeconomic plan and other tasks in 1983 and the making of decisions on the 1984 plan and other fields of activity.

Addressing the delegates at this meeting, Comrde Le Thanh Nghi explained the great political significance of the law on the people's council election that has been passed by the National Assembly. He pointed to the central idea and new content of this law and stressed the principle of ensuring the genuine democratic character of the election, and the proper implementation of the law on organizing people's councils and people's committees. He urged the party committee echelons and the local administrations of districts, villages, and cooperatives to strengthen the production relations in the countryside, improve the management of cooperatives, and properly implement the Council of Ministers' resolution on perfecting the system of contracting out product quotas to groups of workers and to individual workers. Regarding the task of building districts, he advised that the district level should properly carry out managerial work regarding plans and budgets, organize distribution and circulation operations, control goods and money, strengthen market management, and strive to stabilize and improve the livelihood of the local people, workers, state employees, and combatants.

CSO: 4209/117

ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

BRIEFS

THANH HOA RESETTLERS--During 1983 Thanh Hoa Province sent 3,942 families of 17,917 persons to new economic zones in Song Be, Dong Nai, and Gia Lai-Cong Tum Provinces. The province spent over 4 million dong in buying handtools, equipment, and necessary goods for the resettlers to help them quickly engage in production. [Summary] [BK100349 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 3 Jan 84]

MINORITY SETTLERS IN CENTRAL HIGHLANDS--Hanoi, 8 Jan, VNA--Last year, a total of 2,188 ethnic minority families settled in the central highlands province of Lam Dong, up by 10 percent over 1982. The province has invested more than 1.7 million dong and supplied each ethnic minority family with 100 coffee saplings to build coffee plantations. The new settlers in Di Linh District, mostly inhabited by ethnic minorities have planted 530 hectares of coffee with a survival rate reaching 90 percent. Besides, the local administration helped the ethnic minority people with 480 hectares of virgin land for wet rice cultivation. More than 2,000 minority families including 8,000 members last year left their remote villages to settle in the resettlement centers in the central highlands province of Darlak. The new settlers have cleared more than 1,000 hectares of virgin land for rice and subsidiary food crop cultivation. They have also built three irrigation canals to water 300 hectares of double cropping rice fields. [Text] [OW091013 Hanoi VNA in English 0717 GMT 9 Jan 84]

CSO: 4209/117

AGRICULTURE

REPORT ON ACHIEVEMENTS IN FOOD PRODUCTION IN 1983

OW250817 Hanoi VNA in English 0707 GMT 25 Dec 83

[Text] Hanoi, 25 Dec (VNA)--Vietnam's food production this year approximates 17 million tons. This is only 99.6 per cent of the yearly plan but exceeds the 16.6 million tons in 1982, a level unsurpassed by any previous years.

This brings food share per capita this year to 300 kilograms. It is indeed very modest by the standard of a developed country. But for a country when production remains basically small-scale and the cultivated land averages only 1,300 square meters per capita, and which has freshly emerged from three decades of war, the above figures represent a considerable gain.

Most worthy of note is that with its 1983 harvest, Vietnam has for the first time in its millenary history been able to meet its population's food demand by its own means.

The year 1983 witnessed successive and severe natural calamities over vast areas. The increase in food production represents a considerable step in solving the country's food problem along the line of the resolution of the Fifth Congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam (1982). It also represents a continuous trend started several years ago.

The output of food in terms of paddy equivalent increased from 11.4 million tons in 1975 to 13.9 million tons in 1979 and 14.1 million tons in 1980.

The rise has become still more noticeable, averaging ten per cent annually following the introduction of a new managerial system known as the contractual system and a series of other incentive policies issued by the Communist Party. Food production reached 15.5 million tons in 1981 and rose to 16.6 million tons in 1982 and approximately 17 million tons in 1983. As a result, the state could reduce food imports from 1.5 million tons in 1979 to 400,000 tons in 1982, and has stopped importing food this year.

Many localities and regions, which until 1980 had suffered chronic food shortages, have not only become self-sufficient in food but have also delivered increasing amounts of their surplus paddy to the state.

The central Vietnam coastal provinces of Quang Nam-Danang, Nghia Binh and Phu Khanh with a population of more than four million in the past could feed their populations for five or six months a year. More than 60 per cent of the food imported annually by the Saigon administration was for this region.

In the past three years (1981-1983), these provinces have increased their food output by 50 to 100 per cent compared with 1976, meeting the food requirement of an increasing population and delivered large amounts of food to the state. Most commendable of all is Quang Nam-Danang Province which reaped averagely more than 510,000 tons of food a year since 1981, up by 2.5 tons compared with 1976.

The province has brought its food share per capita to 329 kilos, 2.2 times as much as in 1976. In 1982 and 1983 the province procured 70,000 tons of food yearly to the state.

Many cities and industrial regions have also pushed up their food output. Haiphong is the third biggest city with a large industrial sector. This year, it obtained 6.3 tons per hectares for the whole year, an all-time high, meeting 70 per cent of its own food demand and cutting annual stage food subsidies by 70,000 tons.

These achievements stem first of all from the correct guideline set in the resolutions of the Fifth Party Congress and the subsequent resolutions of the party Central Committee which pointed out that agricultural production is the foremost front of the national economy at present.

Under the slogan "the state and people join efforts" and "combine the central and local levels," land reclamation and irrigation work have been promoted in all regions.

Large reservoirs in the category of tens of millions of cubic metres capable of watering from 10,000 to 20,000 hectares such as Ke Go (Nghe Tinh), Phu Ninh (Quang Nam-Danang), Nui Coc (Bac Thai), Cam Son (Ha Bac), Dac Uy (Gia Lai-kontum) have completed. Pumping stations have been installed everywhere. Two point two (2.2) million hectares of crop land have been secured against normal floods and droughts.

In the northern provinces new short-term and high-yield rice strains have replaced the old and degenerated ones and another crop has been added to the traditional two crops in a year.

Before liberation in 1975, farmers in the south used to plant long-term and low-yield rice strains in a single cropping season. In recent years, they have switched to double and even treblecropping thanks to the use of short-term high-yielding rice strains.

Apart from the 2 million or so hectares traditionally grown with autumn rice, the south is also planting two additional rice crops on acreages ranging from 1.2 to 1.4 million hectares depending on the years, with an average yield higher than that of autumn rice. Total output of these two crops stands at about 2.8 million tons, accounting for one-fifth of the national paddy output.

Remarkable progress has been made in the improvement of strains. New strains suited to the winter-spring crop are grown in the north such as the NN.75-2,314, NN.8,... in the south, depending on the soil and climate, the farmers are planting new rice on more than 60 per cent of the acreage. The new strains give

higher yields, mature more quickly and are more resistant to pest, especially the brown plant hopper which has for a long time now played havoc on rice crops in Vietnam and other Asian countries.

In recent years, most localities have marked off special areas for high-yield rice ranging from thousands to dozens of thousands hectares in size. In general, the yield of these areas is 15 per cent higher than that in surrounding plots. Hau Giang Province in the Mekong River Delta has 100,000 hectares of such fields, accounting for one-third of the province's rice acreage. Per hectare yield reaches 4 tons and output accounts for 40 per cent of the province's total.

Another major contributing factor has been the new managerial mechanism based on the contractual quota system.

Before 1945, per hectare yield in the whole country varied from 1 to 1.3 tons. At present, six provinces and cities (Thai Binh, Hai Hung and Hai Phong in the north and Tien Giang, An Giang and Phu Khanh in the south) have obtained 6 tons upward per hectare. About 50 districts have chalked up seven tons and more [than] 500 cooperatives and production collectives obtained from 10 to 20 tons. Particularly, Dai Phuoc cooperative in Dai Loc District, Quang Nam-Danang Province, has set a record of 22 tons of paddy per hectare.

These achievements are laying the requisite for further development of agriculture to provide a firm basis for socialist industrialization.

CSO: 4200/330

AGRICULTURE

BRIEFS

DONG NAI GRAIN COLLECTION--The Dong Nai Provincial People's Committee recently held a conference to review grain collection in 1983 and to discuss measures for this task in the 10th-month crop and 1983-84 winter-spring crop seasons. In 1983, Dong Nai Province has collected 89,840 metric tons of grain converted to paddy equivalent, thus exceeding the planned target by 75 percent. [Summary] [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 20 Dec 83 BK]

INDUSTRIAL-CROP-GROWING ACREAGE--Hanoi, 30 Dec (VNA)--In 1983, Vietnam put 502,800 hectares under short-term industrial crops, 35,600 hectares more than in 1982. Of this total, 206,500 hectares are in the north and 296,300 are in the south. The acreage of peanuts has extended to 136,800 hectares, sugarcane to 134,800 hectares, tobacco to 28,400 hectares, etc. To increase farm produce for export and domestic consumption, many provinces have restructured their crops with priority given to jute, peanuts, soybeans, sugarcane, tobacco.... Long An, Nghia Binh and Tay Ninh provinces in southern Vietnam have established sugarcane processing enterprises and adopted incentive policies towards sugar-cane growers. Apart from intensive farming techniques, all localities are experimenting with new crop rotation formulae in order to maximize short-term industrial crop growing. In the Red River and Mekong River deltas, farmers are rotating rice and jute crops, or growing a soybean crop between two rice crops. In Nghe Tinh Province where soybean is not suitable, it is replaced by peanuts, millet, sweet potatoes, or vegetables. This crop rotation has brought about higher yields than the single-cropping system. Nghe Tinh Province, for instance, has so far this year planted peanuts on 165,000 hectares, 4,000 hectares more than in 1982 and double the 1979 acreage. [Text] [OW301205 Hanoi VNA in English 0757 GMT 30 Dec 83]

QUANG NINH PROVINCE HARVEST--Hanoi, 10 Dec (VNA)--This year, the northeastern border province of Quang Ninh, despite climatic [word indistinct], has obtained 110,000 tons of food in terms of paddy equivalent which is an all-time high in the province and four per cent above its 1983 target. Dong Trieu District led the province in rice production with 520 kilos of paddy per hectare. Eighteen co-ops chalked up from 500 to 600 kilos per hectare. Quang Dinh is the first province in the north to have met its paddy procurement quota by early December, and has been commended by the chairman of the Council of Ministers for this achievement. In recent years, the province has invested much money in irrigation projects, through the export of its timber and marine products it has imported thousands of tons of nitrogenous fertilizer for its high-yield rice areas. Last year, Quang Ninh was awarded the rotary emulation banner of the Council of Ministers for the best food producing province in the mountainous northern region. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0724 GMT 10 Dec 83 OW]

COOPERATIVIZATION IN SOUTH--This year, the Nam Bo provinces additionally set up 8,000 production groups and 56 agricultural cooperatives. Thus, by the end of the year, they set up more than 18,000 agricultural production groups and 245 cooperatives, bringing 37.3 percent of peasant households and 30.2 percent of peasant households and 30.2 percent of cultivated acreage into cooperative work. During 1983 they also gave importance to cooperativization by developing more than 24,000 production solidarity teams and redistributing 63,800 more hectares of ricefields to tens of thousands of peasants. [Summary] [OW062251 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 25 Dec 83]

NGHIA BINH FOOD DELIVERY--This year, despite its lower grain production as compared to 1983, Nghia Binh delivered more than 75,000 tons of grain to state granaries, roughly the same level as that of 1982, when it had a bumper crop. Regarding foodstuffs, the province procured 3,300 ton of pork, surpassing the plan by 6 percent and bettering last year's performance by 22 percent. It delivered 833 tons to the state, surpassing the annual plan by 178 percent and more than doubling last year's level. [Summary] [OW062251 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 25 Dec 83]

HA TUYEN GRAIN--Ha Tuyen Province last year produced a record grain output of 245,000 metric tons, or a provincial per capita of 292.5 kg of grain. To date the province has delivered almost 25,570 metric tons of grain to state granaries. The province is striving to procure over 5,000 additional metric tons to achieve its 1983 plan norms of 30,000-34,000 metric tons. [Summary] [BK100349 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0400 GMT 1 Jan 84]

CSO: 4209/117

HEAVY INDUSTRY AND CONSTRUCTION

BRIEFS

1983 ELECTRICITY OUTPUT--The Vietnamese electric sector produced 4,060 billion kwh of electricity in 1983, overfulfilling the plan target by 1.5 percent. The management and supplying systems have been improved during the past year, enabling the sector to supply electric current to production establishments and the people according to schedule. [Summary] [BK100349 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 2 Jan 84]

CSO: 4209/117

TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS

BRIEFS

FUEL LOSS ON NHA TRANG RAILWAY--In the past few years, the Nha Trang locomotive section of Phu Khanh Province has often failed to remain within its fuel consumption quota. Taking advantage of loopholes in the administration of fuel, several people sold fuel during train trips or made under-the-counter dealings with illicit businessmen and came to the depot to purchase fuel. In 1983, the Nha Trang locomotive section emphasized the movement to save fuel and took various measures to reduce operational fuel consumption. It established young conductor teams and appointed youth union members to directly manage and protect the fuel depot. It gave incentive rewards to those who succeeded in saving fuel and detected and struggled against negativism in the illicit trade of fuel. It also coordinated with self-defense force units in various localities through which the railway runs to prevent dealings in fuel. As a result, in only 10 months of 1983, the Nha Trang locomotive section reduced fuel consumption by 93,300 liters, saving more than 400,000 dong for the state. [Text] [BK061001 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0400 GMT 5 Jan 84]

CONSTRUCTION OF NEW BRIDGE--The construction of the Trung Vuong bridge has been stepped up during the last months of 1983. The 1,235-meter long and 6-lane bridge over the Red River is designed and built by ourselves. [Summary] [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 20 Dec 83 BK]

CSO: 4200/330

HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE

TRUONG CHING ADDRESSES SOCIAL SCIENCE CONFERENCE

BK050939 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0400 GMT 31 Dec 83

[Text] On 27 December, the Vietnamese Social Science Committee [VSSC] held a scientific conference to solemnly mark the 40th anniversary of our party's promulgation of the outline of the Vietnamese cultural revolution. The conference was greatly inspired by the presence of Comrade Truong Chinh, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the Council of State, who addressed the delegates.

In his opening speech, Prof Dao Van Tap, chairman of the VSSC, pointed out: We meet here today to commemorate a momentous event in the cultural and scientific life in our country's modern history--the promulgation 40 years ago by our party of the outline of the Vietnamese cultural revolution. Since the advent of the outline in the situation wherein our country was still languishing under colonialist and feudal domination, our party has developed a comprehensive line of ideological and cultural revolution according to the viewpoints of Marxism-Leninism, which have been creatively applied to the specific situation in our country.

The conference listened with deep emotion and keen attention to Comrade Truong Chinh's address. On behalf of the party Central Committee and the Council of State, Chairman Truong Chinh expressed his joy at having the opportunity to celebrate together with the social science workers, cultural workers, and artists the 40th anniversary of our party's promulgation of the outline of the Vietnamese cultural revolution.

Recalling the circumstances in which the outline of culture was born and the historic significance of this document, Comrade Truong Chinh clearly pointed out: Our party always regards culture as an extremely important revolutionary struggle in which communists should hold high their banner. In face of the danger of the national culture being shackled, bewitched, and suppressed, the party clearly realized that, for the sake of national liberation and the destiny of the national culture, the intellectual and cultural circles must be awakened, mobilized, and directed toward the national salvation front of the party and Viet Minh Front and that a broad struggle must be launched on the cultural front to counter the obscurantist and enslaving cultural schemes of fascism and colonialism, defeat the erroneous and harmful

cultural tendencies, win back national independence, and advance toward building a new Vietnamese culture. The outline of culture was a compass and at the same time a sharp ideological weapon of the Vietnamese fighters on the cultural front.

Touching on the contents of the outline of culture, Comrade Truong Chinh stressed: The outline spelled out the fundamental viewpoint on the cultural revolution and pointed out the close relations among the political, economic, and cultural revolutions. The major principles of the movement for a new Vietnamese culture, namely nationalization, scientific character, and popularization, were in keeping with the objective demands of the national people's democratic revolution in our country.

Comrade Truong Chinh recalled a matter of principle that was stressed time and again in the outline: The party's leading role in the cultural revolutionary spirit of the Communist Party of Indochina and the Vietnamese working class. It stated at a fairly early date the general direction of the Vietnamese cultural revolution and its role in the Vietnamese revolution in general.

CSO: 4209/117

HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE

BRIEFS

FOLKLORE MAGAZINE PUBLISHED--Hanoi, 29 Dec (VNA)--FOLKLORE MAGAZINE, the central organ of the Institute of Folklore under the Vietnam Commission for Social Sciences, has published its first issue. Taking the Communist Party's policy on culture as guideline, the magazine has set for itself the task of studying the national folklore heritage and developing it in service of the building of socialist culture. The first issue publishes several essays by noted Vietnamese researchers, including a "review of 30 years of folklore research and development in the light of the Communist Party of Vietnam by Vu Ngoc Phan, an old scholar." [Text] [OW291005 Hanoi VNA in English 0711 GMT 29 Dec 83 OW]

PHAM VAN DONG AT EXHIBITION--Hanoi, 30 Dec (VNA)--The first exhibition-cum-fair of Vietnam's economic and technical achievements was opened at the Giang Vo Exhibition Centre here this afternoon. The opening ceremony was attended by Pham Van Dong, chairman of the Council of Ministers; Nguyen Van Hieu, minister of culture and head of the exhibition-organizing committee; leading officials of the participant branches of activity and localities throughout the country and members of the diplomatic corps in Hanoi. On show are nearly 3,000 projects and products of research and production establishments belonging to ten ministries or branches of activity and from 40 provinces and cities. The exhibits include almost 300 prize-winners at previous exhibitions and items of goods produced for export or likely to be exported. On this occasion, Giang Vo will be used as a centre for exposition-cum-sale of national products to Vietnamese and foreign buyers. This exhibition-cum-fair will be open to visitors from 31 December 1983 to the end of February 1984. [Text] [BK301725 Hanoi VNA in English 1606 GMT 30 Dec 83]

CSO: 4200/330

POPULATION, CUSTOMS AND CULTURE

BRIEFS

FUNERAL OF PROMINENT PRIEST--President Truong Chinh, Chairman Pham Van Dong, and other high-ranking leaders attended a solemn requiem held in Hanoi Wednesday for the late Reverend Anthony Nguyen The Vinh, president of the Committee for Solidarity of Patriotic Vietnamese Catholics. Nguyen The Vinh, who passed away on Sunday at the age of 79, was the founder of the Liaison Committee of Patriotic and Peace-Loving Vietnamese Catholics. An ardent patriot, he had fought persistently for the independence of the nation and had done a lot for the cause of national unity, construction, and defense. His funeral was held at the Phat Diem Cathedral in Ha Nam Ninh Province, south of Hanoi. [Text] [BK231220 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 23 Dec 83]

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